



THE DOCKET
899th Stated Meeting of Baltimore Presbytery
May 11, 2023

The Mission of Baltimore Presbytery is to encourage, challenge, support and equip our leaders and congregations

- The documents that make up the Meeting Papers are available on-line.
- No printed copies of the papers will be available.
- New Business must be given to the Stated Clerk by the conclusion of Devotions.
- New main motions and amendments must be pre-filed in writing with the Stated Clerk and may be emailed to mgaut@baltimorepresbytery.org.

9:45	Registration & Fellowship.		
	<p>Virtual: Once you are “in the meeting room” please mute yourself & use the CHAT function to greet each other and enjoy short conversations. If you are a ruling or teaching elder voting <u>commissioner</u>, please rename yourself by adding TE or RE after your name.</p>		

10:00	Call to Order Declaration of a quorum Opening Prayer	Action Item #	Moderator,
10:05	***Adoption of the docket	1	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
10:05	<p>Introductions—new Pastors, first-time Ruling Elder Commissioners, and guests. <i>If you are a first-time commissioner, please send your name and congregation through the Chat function.</i></p> <p>Seating of corresponding member Rev. Warren Lesane, Executive and Stated Clerk, Synod of the Mid-Atlantic</p>	2	Rev. Jackie Taylor, GP
10:10	Remembrance of Native Americans		Elder Robert Stepling, Chair of the Baltimore Dakota Learning Camps Steering Committee,
10:15	Report of Synod Commissioner		CRE Ed Terry
10:20	Presentation of Synod Small Church Grant from Synod of the Mid-South		Rev. Carl Wilton

10:15	MORNING DEVOTIONS		Commission on Thriving Congregations
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	REMINDER: Please use the raise hand function for voting and to be recognized for questions or discussion.	Action Item #	
10:30	Report of the Stated Clerk Adjust the Docket, if needed Consent Motion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of minutes of the 898th meeting Proposed Amendments 22-DD, 22-EE, 22-FF 	2 3-5	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
	The GA proposed amendments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22-CC 22-GG 	6 7	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
10:50	Representation & Nominations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Election of slate of nominees Election of 2023-24 Vice Moderator (RE Soung Hee Baranowski, Havre de Grace) Election of 2023-24 Moderator (TE Andrew Connors, Brown Memorial) 	8 9 10	Rev. Deborah McEachran, Chair of Representation and Nominations.
11:00	The Commission on Ministry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Validation of Position of Assistant Teaching Professor/Director of Program Operations at Loyola University Examination of Candidate Nicole Reibe on her sense of call to this position and approval for ordination 	11 12	Rev. Mary Speers, Chair of COM
11:15	Report of the General Presbyter		Rev. Jackie Taylor
11:25	Items pulled from Consent Motion New Business.		
	Adjourn		

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 898th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Baltimore, March 9, 2023, as posted on the website.
(www.baltimorepresbytery.org).
- 3-5 Proposed Amendments to the Book of Order 22-DD, 22-EE, 22-FF

Motions for Action on the Floor of Presbytery

The 225th GA presents for approval:

6. Proposed Amendment 22-CC which would allow a disciplinary process to continue after an accused has renounced jurisdiction
7. Proposed Amendment 22-GG replacing the current “Rules of Discipline” with a new “Church Discipline” section

The Committee on Representation and Nominating recommends:

8. That Presbytery elect the persons listed in the Nominations report to the positions indicated (**See meeting papers**)
9. That Presbytery elect RE Soung Hee Baranowski, Havre de Grace as Presbytery Vice-Moderator for the 2023-2024 program year
10. That Presbytery elect TE Andrew Connors, Brown Memorial as Presbytery Moderator for the 2023-2024 program year

The Commission on Ministry recommends:

11. that the position of Assistant Teaching Professor/Director of Program Operations at Loyola University (see meeting papers) be approved as a Validated ministry and that
12. Dr. Nicole Reibe, a candidate under care of Baltimore Presbytery be examined on her call to this position and approved for ordination.

Items Removed from the Consent Motion

Old Business

New Business

Reports

Stated Clerk's Report

The Stated Clerk reports

Redress Of Imbalance Report 2023 (Based on 2022 Statistics)

These churches are entitled to additional elder commissioners due to the number of members on their rolls:

Church	Total Membership As of 12/31/2022	Additional Number of Elder Commissioners
Woods Memorial	1162	2
First of Annapolis	661	1
First of Howard County	570	1
Total		4

The computations involved in determining the redress of the imbalance between Ministers and Elders, as found in the Presbytery Manual 2.3, are represented in the following tables. Counts are as of 12/31/2022.

Ministers on the Roll	154
Ministers who are Non-Resident	18
Ministers who are Honorably Retired, not attending	46
TOTAL (A - (B + C))	90

All churches	64
Additional Elders from churches with > 500 members	4
Elder Officers and Commission members	25
Certified Christian Educators	1
Commissioned Ruling Elders	7
Former RE Moderators attending	5
Former RE Stated Clerks attending	1
TOTAL	107

The number of ruling elders enrolled in the membership of presbytery in 2022 exceeds the number of enrolled ministers and therefore no additional elders from congregations are needed.

Steering Cabinet

At its most recent meeting (4/26/2023), the Steering Cabinet continued to work on implementing the new strategic priorities of the presbytery:

- strong, sustainable, resourced congregations.
- an inclusive, just organization where all have equal voice and access.
- an energized, adaptive presbytery, ready to witness to the movement of the Spirit.
- healthy pastors with resources for spiritual, mental and emotional health.
- a culture of coaching and learning for clergy and lay leaders.

We discussed potential new models for presbytery team ministries, and heard proposals about interesting new initiatives including a strategic plan to support the work and ministries of small congregations, and a proposal for a Leadership Academy for Pastors and Congregations. The Cabinet also continued its discernment about the way presbytery can best act to encourage, challenge and equip leaders and congregations in the areas of youth and young adults and community engagement in the next decade. Cabinet will recommend to Presbytery at its September 16th meeting the removal of The Center as an entity of the Presbytery and make all required changes to the manual to facilitate this move. Congregations will receive a communication from Steering Cabinet with a more detailed look at this action this summer. We celebrate what we as a presbytery have learned from the years of our partnership with The Center, and we look forward to deepening and broadening our commitment to youth, young adults and community engagement across the Presbytery of Baltimore in the future.

The Committee on Administration

No Report

The Gathering Team

Reports that the 900th stated meeting of the Presbytery will be an in-person meeting on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at Mt Paran Presbyterian Church beginning at 10AM and will include lunch.

The Committee on Representation and Nominations Reports

The Committee on Nominations and Representation recommends:

1. The following as members on commissions and committees:

Thriving Congregations Commission: RE Karen Garrett (Knox), class of 2026; RE Tina Coleman (Harundale) class of 2026

Spiritual Leader Development Commission: RE Pete McCallum (Highland) class of 2024; RE Heather Russell (Westminster) class of 2026

Commission on Reconciliation: TE Eric Koenig-Reinke (2nd) class of 2025; TE Roger Rice (HR), class of 2026; TE Jeong Han (Korean United) class of 2026

Commission on Ministry: TE Alison Peters (Cumberland), class of 2026; RE Shirley Reiner (1st of Bel Air), class of 2026; RE Mike Kahn (Granite), class of 2026; TE Hal Bennett (Grove), class of 2026

Commission on Preparation for Ministry: RE Pat Foye (Annapolis), class of 2026

Trustees: RE Brooke Schumm (2nd), class of 2026; RE Helen Krone (Annapolis), class of 2026

Nominating Committee: TE McKenna Llewellyn (Maryland) class of 2026

Gathering Team: TE Jenn DiFrancesco (Havenwood/Slate Project), class of 2026

Administration Committee: TE McKenna Llewellyn (Maryland) class of 2025; TE Christa Burns (HR), class of 2026.

Personnel Committee: TE Scott Hoffman (Christ Memorial), class of 2026; TE Keith Paige (Cherry Hill) class of 2026

Synod Committee on Representation: TE Mary Speers (HR), class of 2025

Synod Nominating Committee: RE Barbara Yancy (Lochearn), class of 2026

2. Vice-Moderator (2023-2024): RE Soung Hee Baranowski (Havre de Grace)

Soung Hee was born and raised in Seoul, South Korea. She grew up influenced by Confucianism and Buddhism. In Korean culture, it was believed that many sons (and not daughters) brought many blessings to the family. Soung Hee writes: "I was born the third daughter among four girls and my parents only had one son. I wasn't very welcome at birth. Despite my background, I went to middle school, high school and college founded by Christian missionaries. From the seed that was planted, I became a Christian after I immigrated to America in 1979.... I tried so hard not to be burden to my parents. I wanted to be strong, smart and independent like a son. But I was wounded, fragile and lonely.

The first time I heard the voice of God was during the first Bible study at my house in 1985.

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened."

(Matthew 7:7) When I heard that voice, I knew it was God because nobody knew I needed help. Immediately, I asked God to forgive my sin and I accepted Jesus for my Savior. It was a miracle that I was a sinner before and now I became a righteous one."

Her parents wished for a boy, not a girl. She came to America following the American dream to be rich, and yet became a follower of Jesus. She says: "It wasn't my plan but God's plan. I did not have any idea to be a Vice-Moderator... and now I am. Always his plan, not mine. I trust his plan to prosper us and give us hope and a future for Baltimore Presbytery." (Jeremiah 29:11)

Soung Hee retired from her own insurance business in 2017 and has four grandchildren aged 12 years to 1 month. She is a ruling elder at Havre de Grace Presbyterian Church.

3. Moderator 2023-2024: TE Andrew Connors (Brown Memorial)

Andrew Connors has been Senior Pastor at Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church since 2004. From 2010-2021 he served as clergy co-chair of Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development (BUILD), a local affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) and Maryland's largest citizen's power organization. One of the founders of NEXT Church, a national movement among Presbyterians excited about the future of the Presbyterian Church (USA), he has also

served as co-chair. He serves on several nonprofit boards and is a frequent contributor to journals and commentaries. Andrew holds degrees from Duke University and Columbia Theological Seminary and was the 2001 recipient of the David H.C. Read Preaching Award.

The following positions remain open. Every attempt is made to keep a balance between ruling and teaching elders. If you (or someone you know) might be interested in talking about one of these positions, please contact Nominating/Representation Chair: TE Deborah McEachran, dmceachran@hrpc.comcastbiz.net, 443-462-7154

Thriving Congregations Commission: RE Class of 2025, RE class of 2026

Spiritual Leader Development Commission: RE class of 2026

Personnel Committee: RE class of 2024, RE class of 2025

Administration Committee: RE or church member, class of 2026

Trustee: TE class of 2026

Nominating Committee: TE class of 2026

Synod Commissioner: RE class of 2026

Commission on Ministry

The Commission on Ministry reports

At its March 29 Leadership Team meeting:

Approved the request of Hunting Ridge Presbyterian Church for the use of its sanctuary by the Evangelical Baptist Church, Maryland, an independent congregation serving an immigrant community, and referred the action to the P&L commission for final approval.

At its May 3 meeting:

Approved the retirement of Rev. Kerry Slinkard effective 4/1/2019 (retroactive to correct an administrative omission because he was transferring from another presbytery at that time).

Approved Dismissing Rev. Billy Klutz to National Capitol Presbytery 05/03.2023

Reminds congregations that leasing sanctuary space to another worshipping community or congregation requires the approval of the COM and the Property and Loan Commission. All long-term leases of any space (five or more years) also require the approval of the Property and Loan Commission. (G-4.0206b)

The Commission on Preparation

The Commission on the Preparation for Ministry reports that through an email vote on March 23-24, 2023, CPM appointed RE Lisa Beacham (Govans) as its 4th reader for 2023 ordination exams. The other readers are RE Leslie Owsley (Second), TE Eric Myers (Frederick) and TE McKenna Lewellen (Maryland)

The Property and Loan Commission

Reports that via an email vote on March 20-22 it approved a "Green Energy Loan" for Ark and Dove from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program.

The Commission on Spiritual Leader Development

At its meeting on 3/23/2023, approved the Celebration of the Lord's Supper at the 900th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery on September 16th, 2023