



THE DOCKET
900th Stated Meeting of Baltimore Presbytery
 Mt Paran Presbyterian Church
 Randallstown, MD
 September 16, 2023, 10AM

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

SCAN TO VIEW
MEETING PAPERS

- The documents that make up [the Meeting Papers are available online](#).
- No printed copies of the papers will be available. Please download and/or print before arrival.
- New Business must be given to the Stated Clerk by the conclusion of worship.
- New main motions and amendments must be pre-filed in writing with the Stated Clerk



9:30	Registration & Fellowship. In person: Please pick up your name tag.		
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THE WORSHIP PROCESSIONAL BEGINS AT 10AM. PLEASE FIND YOUR SEAT PRIOR TO THAT TIME. MANY THANKS TO THE COMMISSION ON SPIRITUAL LEADER DEVELOPMENT FOR PLANNING TODAY'S WORSHIP AND TO MT PARAN PRESBYTERIAN FOR HOSTING US THERE WILL BE A FIVE-MINUTE BREAK BETWEEN WORSHIP AND MEETING

Discernment and Decisions

11:00	Call to Order Declaration of a quorum Opening Prayer	Action Item #	Moderator, Rev. Andrew Connors
	***Adoption of the docket	1	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
11:05	Greetings from Host Church		CRE Anita Bishop Johnson
11:15	Introductions—new Pastors, first-time Ruling Elder Commissioners, and guests; seating of corresponding members: Rev. Warren Lesane, Rev. Diane Moffett, Rev. Fern Cloud, CRE Gerald Hemminger		Rev. Jackie Taylor, GP

11:30	Remembrance of Native Americans (Drawing for quilt during lunch)		Elder Robert Stepling, Chair of the Baltimore Dakota Learning Camps Steering Committee,
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11:35	Report of the Stated Clerk Consent Motion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of minutes • Approval of Manual Changes in section 7.9.5.4 (see meeting papers) • Approval of Manual changes in section 7.8.5.3 (see meeting papers) • Approval of Communion being celebrated at Cuba Network Annual Gathering Oct. 24-27. 	2-5	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
11:40	Annual Report of Ministry Groups (List of Ministry Group Churches)		Rev. Renee Mackey, chair of conveners group
11:45	The Commission on Ministry recommends that the Presbytery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve a 3.5% COLA increase in terms of call (mandatory for those at the minimum of their factor) • Examine for ordination Candidate Jennifer McCullough (Los Ranchos Presbytery) and request Los Ranchos to ordain and transfer her. • Approve the revisions to the Policy on Pastoral Compensation • Approve the revisions to the Sexual Misconduct Policy 	6-9	Rev. Mary Speers, chair of COM
12:15	The Committee on Representation & Nominations recommends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That presbytery elect the persons named in its report to the positions indicated 	10	Rev. Deborah McEachran, committee chair.
12:20	Report of the Synod Commissioners		Rev. Carl Wilton
12:30	The Steering Cabinet recommends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That section 11, The Center, be removed from the Presbytery Manual, along with other references to the Center, [5.3.10, 6.2.1, 7.12.1] 	11	RE Cecil Phillips, chair of Steering Cabinet.

12:40	The Report of the General Presbyter		Rev. Jackie Taylor
12:50	Report of the Administrative Commission for Glen Burnie Korean Presbyterian Church		Rev. Tim Stern, chair of the Commission
1:00	Adjournment and Procession to lunch		

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 899th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Baltimore, May 11, 2023**, as posted on the website.

The Commission on Ministry recommends:

3. **That Manual section 7.9.5.4 “Empowerments and Responsibilities concerning Commissioned Pastors”** be amended by replacing the current section with a revised section (see meeting papers)

The Commission on Preparation for Ministry recommends:

4. **That Manual section 7.8.5.3 “Commissioned Ruling Elders/Commissioned Pastors”** be amended by replacing the current section with a revised section (see meeting papers)

The Cuba partnership requests:

5. The approval from the Presbytery of Baltimore for the serving of the Lord’s Supper at the upcoming Cuba Partners Network Annual Gathering at Sandy Cove retreat center in Northeast, Maryland. The Gathering will occur October 24-27, 2023, and will include up to 90 attendees. Rev. Deborah McEachran (Co-convenor of the Cuba Partners Network and member of the Presbytery of Baltimore), together with another Presbyterian minister of Word and Sacrament, will officiate.

Motions for Action on the Floor of Presbytery

The Commission on Ministry recommends:

6. Approve a 3.5% COLA increase in terms of call (mandatory for those at the minimum for their factor)
7. That Candidate Jennifer McCullough (Los Ranchos Presbytery) be examined on her sense of call to the position of Associate Pastor at Ark and Dove Presbyterian

- Church and, if sustained, request Los Ranchos to ordain her on our behalf and transfer her membership to Baltimore Presbytery
8. That Presbytery approve an amended [Policy on Pastoral Compensation](#) (see meeting papers)
 9. That Presbytery approve an amended [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) (see meeting papers)

The Representation and Nominating Committee recommends:

10. That Presbytery elect the persons listed in the [Nominations report](#) to the positions indicated (See meeting papers)

The Steering Cabinet recommends that:

11. That section 11, [The Center, be removed from the Presbytery Manual](#), along with other references to the Center, [5.3.10, 6.2.1, 7.12.1]

Reports

Stated Clerk's Report

The Stated Clerk reports

- that the annual review of records was completed and found to be in order with a minor exception ([see report in meeting papers.](#))
- RE Mike Kahn resigned from COM effective 8/3/2023 and TE Jack Carlson resigned from COM effective 8/31/2023.

Administration Committee

The administration committee has posted the 2024 Personnel Compensation budget with the meeting papers for first reading. It will be presented for a vote at the Nov. 9, 2023, meeting.

The Commission on Preparation for Ministry Report

- Inquirers Julie Finch, Jody Morris and Emma Warman have withdrawn from the preparation for ministry process.
- At its meeting on June 21st, it enrolled Akilah Atkinson (Govans) and Joshua Gilhart (First of Cumberland) as Inquirers.

Commission on Ministry

The Commission on Ministry reports

- That Candidate Blake Collins was duly ordained at First Presbyterian Church of Howard Co. on August 27, 2023 at 3PM, and transferred to National Capitol Presbytery effective on that date. Baltimore Presbytery members of the ordination commission were: The Rev. Sue Lowcock Harris, chair, and The Rev. Morton Harris, First of Howard County; The Rev. Eric Myers, Frederick; The Rev. Cat Goodrich, Faith; Elder Catherine Blacka, First of Howard County; Elder Cecil Phillips, Dickey Memorial. Corresponding Members were: The Rev, Shawna Bowman, Chicago Presbytery; The Rev. Emily McGinley, San

Francisco Presbytery; The Rev. Meredith Cox, Middle Tennessee Presbytery; The Rev. Neill Morgan, National Capitol Presbytery; The Rev. Richard Williams, South Louisiana Presbytery; Elder Jen Cole, Darnestown Presbyterian Church, National Capitol Presbytery; Elder Samantha Fowler, Darnestown Presbyterian Church, National Capitol Presbytery; Elder Pat Curran, First of Howard County. The commission was dissolved with the benediction.

- That Candidate Nicole Riebe was duly ordained to a validated ministry at Loyola University at Maryland Presbyterian Church, on August 27, 2023, at 10:30AM. Members of the Commission were: Rev. McKenna Lewellen (MPC), Rev. Shannon Weston (VAL), Elder Carol Mason (MPC), Elder Cecil Philips (Dickey), Elder Deb Baer, (Brown). Corresponding Members: Dr. Heather Miller Ruben, ICJS; Dr. Claire Mathews McGinnis, Loyola U. The commission was dissolved with the benediction.

At the Credentials Team meeting on May 22, 2023

- approved receiving Rev. Susan Boucher from Denver Presbytery and approved her Transitional Pastor contract with Harundale Presbyterian.
- Approved the Temporary Supply contract between Rev. Kim Nofel and Granite Presbyterian Church
- Affirmed Rev. Steve Nofel's position as Bridge Pastor at First and Franklin Presbyterian Church. (Rev. Nofel's contract is with the Presbytery as the staff interim)

At its credentials team meeting on June 5,

- approved recommending Jennifer McCullough for examination for ordination to the position of Associate Pastor at Ark and Dove and approved terms of call pending successful examination.

At the Leadership Team Meeting on June 7, 2023,

- Approved the Interim Pastor renewal contact between Rev. Randall Clayton and Second Presbyterian Church

At the Leadership Team meeting on Aug. 2, 2023,

- approved the call of Fallston Presbyterian to Jose Lopez-Chapa effective September 1, 2023.

At the Credentials team meeting on 8/7

- approved the contract between Ashland Presbyterian Church and Rev. Michel Ward as their Transitional Pastor effective September 15, 2023.

At the Credentials team meeting on August 28, 2023,

- received the Rev. David Welton and Rev. Rosemary Noga Welton (retired) from Tropical Florida Presbytery

Report of the Property and Loan Commission

The Property and Loan Commission reports that at its meeting on July 26, 2023,

- it approved Hunting Ridge Presbyterian leasing its sanctuary to Evangelical Baptist Church

Through an email vote on September 7, 2023

- The commission approved an application from Faith Presbytery for a PILP loan in the amount of \$118,746 toward the cost of an update to their HVAC mechanical system.