



THE DOCKET
904th Stated Meeting of Baltimore Presbytery
 September 14, 2024
 Korean United Presbyterian Church

Called to community by God, disciplined by Jesus Christ, enlivened by the Holy Spirit, Baltimore Presbytery encourages, challenges and equips our congregations to thrive spiritually and be apostles for reconciliation.

- The documents that make up the Meeting Papers are available on-line.
- 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 and may be emailed to mgaut@baltimorepresbytery.org.

9:30	Registration & Fellowship.		
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Stories and Celebrations...

Time	Activity	Action Item #	Officer
10:00	Call to Order Declaration of a quorum Opening Prayer		
10:05	***Adoption of the docket	1	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
10:05	Greetings from Host Church Pastor		Rev. Jeong Han
10:10	Introductions—new Pastors, first-time Ruling Elder Commissioners, and guests; seating corresponding members Dean of The Ecumenical Institute at St Mary’s, Dr. Brent Laytham		Rev. Jackie Taylor, General Presbyter
10:25	Remembrance of Native Americans		RE Bob Stepling
10:30	Worship & Installation of Officers Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper		

Discernment and Decisions

	Please raise your hand to be recognized for questions or discussion.	Action Item #	
11:15	Report of the Stated Clerk Adjust the Docket, if needed Consent Motion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of minutes of the 403rd meeting • Amend Compensation Policy to include step-child(ren) in the list of familial relationships for family medical leave • Dismiss the AC for the closing of Northminster Presbyterian effective at the closing of the corporation. 	2-4	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
11:20	The Administration Committee recommends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the 2025 Presbytery per capita be set at \$30.01 (see explanation in the “Motions” section of the docket below) 	5	RE Betsy Stewart
11:25	Report of Commissioner to the Synod Assembly		TE Carl Wilton
11:30	The Committee on Representation and Nominations recommends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The election of those listed in its report to the positions and classes indicated 	6	TE McKenna Lewellen
11:35	Reports of the Commissioners to the 226 th General Assembly (Part 1)		RE Lynn Carlson
11:45	The Commission on Ministry recommends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the annual cost of living (COLA) increase be set at 2.9% • That the Policy on Pastoral Compensation be amended as presented in the meeting papers Recognition of the Retirement of Rev. Deborah McEachran	7-8	TE Mary Speers RE Jim Schroll RE Suzanne Jewell
12:05	Reports of the Commissioners to the 226 th General Assembly (Part 2)		TE Michele Ward RE Clarese Jordan Moore
12:10	The Commission on Preparation for Ministry recommends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Inquirer Kathy Welsh Smith (RE at Central Presbyterian) be examined on her sense of call and advanced to Candidacy 	9	TE Michael Cuppett RE Kathy Welsh Smith TE Andy Nagel

12:25	Reports of the Commissioners to the 226 th General Assembly (Part 3)		<i>RE Elisabeth Paulk (written report) TE Hal Bennett</i>
12:30	Report of the General Presbyter		TE Jackie Taylor
12:40	Items pulled from Consent Motion New Business.		
12:40	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 903rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Baltimore, May 16, 2024 , as posted on the website. (www.baltimorepresbytery.org).
3. Amend the Pastoral Compensation Policy on Paid Family Medical Leave to include stepchild(ren) in the list of familial relationships
4. Dismiss the Administrative Commission for closing Northminster Presbyterian Church effective on the closing of the corporation by the state of Maryland

Motions for Action on the Floor of Presbytery

The Committee on Administration recommends:

5. The Presbytery of Baltimore portion of the per capita apportionment be set at \$30.01 for 2025. (This is a \$.96 increase. The GA portion has increased by \$1.04 to \$10,84 and the Synod portion has remained the same at \$1.15 for a total 2025 per capita of \$42 if the recommended increase is approved).

The Representation and Nominating Committee recommends:

6. That the persons named in its report be elected to the positions and classes indicated.

The Commission on Ministry recommends:

7. That the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2025 be set at 2.9%. (*see formula outlined in paragraph 3 of compensation policy. The approved COLA is mandated for effective salaries that are at the minimum level for their factor.*)
8. That Presbytery approve amending the Compensation Policy as presented in the meeting papers. (*This amendment would be effective for 2025 only*)

The Commission on Preparation for Ministry recommends:

9. That Inquirer Kathy Welsh Smith (RE at Central Presbyterian) be examined on her sense of call and advanced to Candidacy

Reports

Stated Clerk's Report

The Stated Clerk reports:

- That the annual representation report was submitted to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic (see meeting papers)
- That the required review of presbytery records by the Synod was completed and the Presbytery minutes approved without exception (see meeting papers)
- That the following have resigned from the committees and commissions indicate: TE Carrie Finch-Burriss from Trustees, TE Michele Ward from the Property and Loan Commission and the SMRT team, TE McKenna Lewellen from Administration, TE Deborah McEachran from Nominating, RE Lynn Carlson from Nominating, TE Jennifer DeFrancesco from Gathering Team

Steering Cabinet

The Steering Cabinet reports:

- At the request of the Session of Mt Hebron Presbyterian Church on June 3, 2024, the Presbytery of Baltimore, acting through its Steering Cabinet, hereby establishes an Administrative Commission assist the church session in resolving difficulties arising in the relationship between the church and its nursery school. In accord with Book of Order G-3.0303d (1&2) The Commission has the authority to:
 - Support the session through prayer and discernment
 - Advise the session as to appropriate actions to be taken to resolve the difficulties
 - Offer to help as a mediator including but not limited to organizing and/or leading listening sessions with the various parties in the disputes
 - Seek out and recommend other presbytery resources as appropriate
 - Report regularly to the Commission on Ministry and make a final written report at the conclusion of the work.

The AC does not have the authority to assume original jurisdiction or to sign any legal documents. Any additional authority other than what is explicitly listed in this commission will require the approval of the Presbytery through the Steering Cabinet.

This action was taken via email vote on June 21, 2024. Members appointed to the commission are:

TE Matthew Glasgow (Westminster)
RE Neil Nemser (Faith)
RE Sarah Wilson (Woods)
RE Sam Erdman (Maryland)

Commission on Ministry

The Commission on Ministry reports

- At its Credentials Team meeting on May 28, 2024 approved receiving TE John C Austin from Lehigh Presbytery pending the congregational meeting at Woods Presbyterian where he is called to serve as Senior pastor.
- At its Leadership Team meeting on July 3 it took the following actions
 - Approved changing Michele Ward's Transitional Pastor contract with Ashland Presbyterian to a ¼ Temporary Supply contract pending the Ashland Session's approval. This will provide continued pastoral support to the church while accommodating Michele's new position at the Presbytery as Associate for Community Engagement.
 - Approved the shared ministry arrangement between Churchville and Granite for the pastoral leadership of TE Kim Novel. The two churches will split a full-time compensation package. She will serve as Bridge Pastor at Churchville and continue as interim pastor at Granite.
 - Approved the Interim Pastor contract between TE Ron Hankins and Govans Presbyterian pending the concurrence by the Credentials
 - Approved dismissing TE Randy Clayton to New Castle Presbytery where he lives in retirement.
- At its Credentials Team meeting on June 17, 2024
 - approved the Interim Contract between Christ Memorial and TE Janna VanderWoude.
- At its Credentials Team meeting on July 22, 2024
 - Approved the Bridge contract between TE Kim Nofel and Churchville.
 - Approved the call of Second Presbyterian to TE Andy Nagel pending the successful congregational meeting planned for September 8, 2024.
 - Concurred in the approval of the Interim contract between TE Ron Hankins and Govans Presbyterian.
- At its Leadership Team meeting on August 7, 2024
 - Approved dismissing TE Carrie Finch-Buris to Salem Presbytery effective August 26, 2024
 - Approved the retirement of TE Deborah McEachran effective July 21, 2024
 - Approved a revised Transitional Contract between TE Michele Ward and Ashland Presbyterian

- At its meeting on September 4, 2024, approved Trinity Presbyterian as a congregation which would benefit from a Commissioned Ruling Elder to officiate sacraments