

Minutes of the 895th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Baltimore

May 12, 2022 at 10:00 am
First Presbyterian Church of Howard County

STORIES AND CELEBRATIONS

Moderator Sue Lowcock Harris called the meeting of the Presbytery of Baltimore to order at 10:00 AM. She opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present.

She called on the Stated Clerk, Mary Gaut who explained that the first two motions could only be voted on by those physically present. She then moved the adoption of the Docket. It was seconded and **APPROVED** by common consent.

The Stated Clerk then moved that the Manual be changed to allow for hybrid meetings:

1. Add new section

3.4.2 Hybrid Meetings. Hybrid Meetings are those held with some participants meeting in person and others attending through video conferencing.

3.4.2.1 Those attending in-person and virtually will have equal access to the floor. The means of seeking recognition and voting will be announced at the beginning of all hybrid meetings.

3.4.2.2 Actual numbers of votes will not be announced or recorded unless there is a counted vote required by "division of the house."

3.4.2.2.1 Any vote requiring a secret ballot will be set up as an anonymous poll for virtual attendees and with paper ballots for in-person attendees.

2. Renumber current section 3.4.2 as 3.4.3

The motion was seconded and **APPROVED** unanimously. The Stated Clerk said that, with that change all those attending virtually would be able to vote and participate in discussion.

General Presbyter, Jackie Taylor, welcomed first time ruling elders and guests, including Meaghan Casey of Gallagher Evelius & Jones Law Firm, Connie Loveks (Frostburg), Stanley Howes and Nancy Bostian (Huntingdon Presbytery), Dr. Taylor then moved that the following be seated as corresponding members:

- Rev. Ellie Johns- Kelly, Ministry Relations Officer Allegheny & Chesapeake Region, Presbyterian Foundation (Presbytery of Lake Erie)
- Rev. Claire Pula, HR, (Highlands Presbytery)
- Rev. Steve Nofel (North Central Iowa)
- Rev. Jack Miller (Huntingdon Presbytery)

The motion was seconded and **APPROVED** by common consent.

Ruling Elder Bob Stepling was recognized to lead the Presbytery in a remembrance of the Native Peoples who once occupied the land within the bounds of our presbytery.

The Moderator called upon Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelly, Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation. She shared that her territory consisted of the Synod of the Trinity along with Baltimore and New Castle Presbyteries. She gave a brief history of the Foundation emphasizing its ability to resource churches in the areas of planned giving, investment options, stewardship education. She also shared information on the Church Financial Leadership Grant Program which is described on their website <https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/grant/>.

The Presbytery then moved into a time of Worship. Rev. Amy Carlson (Second Presbyterian) and Rev. Jon Nelson (Ark and Dove Presbyterian) preached on the theme of “The Church Gathered and Dispersed” reflecting on the new perspectives offered by the changes required by the global Covid pandemic. The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was celebrated and the Commissioners to the 225th General Assembly were commissioned.

DISCERNMENTS AND DECISIONS

STATED CLERK’S REPORT AND CONSENT MOTION

The Moderator invited Vice-Moderator RE Cecil Phillips to moderate the meeting for the next two items on the docket. He called upon the Stated Clerk who presented the consent motion (Appendix B attached) which included approval of the 2022 Terms of Call. The motion was seconded and **APPROVED** by common consent.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION AND NOMINATIONS

Rev. Deborah McEachran, chair of the Committee, was recognized. She moved, on behalf of the Committee, that Presbytery elect all those listed in their written report to the offices and classes indicated (Appendix C). The motion was **APPROVED**.

She then moved, on behalf of the Committee, that Rev. Andrew Connors, pastor of Brown Memorial, be elected vice-moderator for the 2022-23 program year. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Finally, she moved on behalf of the Committee that current vice-moderator, RE Cecil Phillips (Dickey Memorial) be elected moderator for the 2022-23 program year. The motion was **APPROVED**. The vice-moderator then turned the meeting back to the moderator.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

The Moderator called on RE Julia Schaeffer, a member of the Commission on Ministry who moved that the Presbytery examine on his statement of faith (Appendix D) and commission ruling elder Stanley Howes, a member of the Bedford Presbyterian Church in Huntingdon Presbytery, to serve as Commissioned Pastor of the Frostburg Presbyterian Church including officiating sacraments, moderating session and performing marriages as permitted by the State of Maryland. The motion did not require a second.

Elder Schaeffer reported on the extensive work done by the COM and the stated clerks of both presbyteries to insure all polity issues were addressed and that Elder Howes training in Huntingdon Presbytery met the requirements of Baltimore's. After a brief time of questions, the examination was sustained, and the Presbytery **APPROVED** the commissioning of RE Howes to pastor of Frostburg Presbyterian through December 31, 2022. The commission is renewable following review by the COM.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

General Presbyter, Rev. Jackie Taylor, was recognized to give her report. She spoke about the on-going work of the Strategic Planning Process, distinguishing between “outputs” (the final report itself) and “outcomes” (what will happen as a result of the new Strategic Plan.

Upon a motion and second, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** by the Moderator at 12:25PM and closed with prayer by the Vice-Moderator.

Respectfully submitted
 Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk

APPENDIX A
Attendance Detail

Category	Present	Excused	Absent
Teaching Elders Serving Churches	38	4	16
Specialized Teaching Elders.	5	0	7
New Worshiping Community Leaders	Listed elsewhere	0	1
Honorably Retired Teaching Elders	7	-	-
CREs & Commissioned Pastors	0	0	6
Ruling Elder Commissioners (Including officers and Commission members)	30	-	65
Former Ruling Elder Moderators	4	-	-
Former Ruling Elder Stated Clerks	1	-	-
Certified Educators	0	-	-
Subtotal voting members	85		
Corresponding Members	4	-	-
Youth Advisory Delegates (Non-voting)	0	-	-
Guests and Presbytery Staff (Non-voting)	13	-	-
Candidates and Inquirers (Non-voting)	1	-	-
Subtotal non-voting attendees	18		

TOTAL PRESENT	103	4	95
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TEACHING ELDERS SERVING CHURCHES:

Present: Tim Stern, (Ark& Dove), Jon Nelson (Ark & Dove), Todd Smith (Bethel), Andrew Connors, Michele Ward (Brown);, Dorothy Boulton (Catonsville); Ken Kovacs (Catonsville), Andy Nagel (Central); Jessie Lowry (Christ Our Anchor); Jeff Young (Christ Our King); Laura Batten-Carbaugh (Covenant), Essie Koenig-Reinke (Dickey Memorial), Edwin Lacy (Fallston), Christian Iosso (First & Franklin), Andrew Kort, Mihee Kim-Kort (First of Annapolis); Melissa Lopez (First Bel Air); Sue Lowcock Harris, Morton Harris (First of Howard); Matthew Glasgow (First Westminister); Thomas Harris (Govans); Sungjin Kim (Glen Burnie Korean), Teresa Martin-Minnich (Hancock), Emma Horn (Harundale); Jennifer DiFrancesco (Havenwood); Ray Meute (Highland), Deborah McEachran (Hunting Ridge); Carrie Finch-Burriss (Kenwood); Tim Hughes Williams (Light Street); Kimberly Secrist Ashby (Mt. Hebron), Janna Vanderwoude (Northminster), Elizabeth McLean (Prince of Peace); Mark Hannah (Roland Park); Amy Carlson (Second); Randy Clayton (Second), Mary Ka Kanahan (St. John United); Joel Strom (Towson), John Carlson HR (Woods),

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Scott Hoffman (Christ Memorial); Billy Kluttz (Govans); Karen Brown (Hope), Jacob Snowden (Woods).

ABSENT: Shannon Weston (Ashland); Glen Misick (Babcock), Keith Paige (Cherry Hill); Andy Gathman (Chestnut Grove), Catherine Goodrich (Faith); Alison Peters (First Cumberland), Eric Myers (Frederick), Kerry Slinkard (Good Shepherd); Tanya Wade (Grace), Jeong Hoon Han (Korean United); Phyllis Felton (Madison Ave.), Rebecca Crate-Price (Springfield), Mark Sandell (St. Andrew), Dan Melton (St. Andrew's), Rob Carter (Towson), Nancy Lincoln-Reynolds (Woods)

NEW WORSHIPING COMMUNITY LEADERS:

Present: *(Jennifer DiFrancesco listed with Havenwood),*

RESIDENT SPECIALIZED CLERGY

Present: Cathy Bashore, Jennifer Barchi; Katherine Foster; McKenna Lewellen, Jackie Taylor

Absent: Brandon Brewer, Sarah Diehl; Richard Jones;. Stephen Mann; Charles Thomas, Sr.; David Willerup, Janine Zabriskie

NONRESIDENT SPECIALIZED CLERGY:

Present:

Absent and Excused: Tom Blair, John Boulware, Tanya Denley Rob Hoch, Stacy Martin, Michael Moore, David Norse Thomas, Keith Roberts, Easter Smart,

HONORABLY RETIRED

Present: Anita Hendrix, Doris Cowan, Mary Gaut, Loril Hawk, Roger Rice, John Schmidt, Laurel Underwood

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: Ellie Johns- Kelly, Ministry Relations Officer Allegheny & Chesapeake Region, Presbyterian Foundation (Presbytery of Lake Erie); Claire Pula (HR), Highlands; Steve Nofel (North Central Iowa); Jack Miller (Huntingdon)

RULING ELDER OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY'S STEERING CABINET AND COMMISSIONS

Present: Lynn Carlson (COM), Bob Stepling (COR) Audrey Trapp (Chair of Cabinet); [*Cecil Phillips, Vice-Moderator*]

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS FROM CONGREGATIONS:

ARK AND DOVE, Lori Kronser; CATONSVILLE, David Hutton, CHRIST OUR KING, Joanne Kokie; CHURCHVILLE, Bonnie Jones; DICKEY MEMORIAL, Melanie Savage, FALLSTON, Sharon Tyler, FIRST OF ANNAPOLIS, Betsy Stewart, Deborah Dixon; FIRST OF HOWARD CO. Louisa Leslie; FIRST OF WESTMINSTER, Heather Russell; FREDERICK, Julia Schaffer; FROSTBURG, Yvonne Beal; GRANITE, Michael Kahn; GROVE. Carroll Fitzgerald; HAMILTON, Janice Howard; HARUNDALE, Amy Avergas; HAVRE DE GRACE Patricia Allingham; HIGHLAND, Claudia Scarborough; HUNTING RIDGE, Emmanuel Addo; KNOX, Charese Jordan Moore; MARYLAND, Carol Mason; PRINCE OF PEACE, Cynthia Collins; SECOND, Scott Silverwood; SPRINGFIELD, Elizabeth Meirowitz; ST. JOHN UNITED, Susan Moody; WOODS MEMORIAL, Bill Hadley;

CONGREGATIONS WITHOUT ELDER REPRESENTATION Churches listed in ORANGE had elders present but listed in a different voting category:

ASHLAND, BABCOCK, BARRELVILLE, BETHEL, BROWN, CENTRAL, CHERRY HILL, CHESTNUT GROVE, CHRIST MEMORIAL, CHRIST OUR ANCHOR, COVENANT, EMMITSBURG, FAITH, FIRST OF BEL AIR, FIRST OF CUMBERLAND, , FIRST AND FRANKLIN, FRANKLINVILLE, GOOD SHEPHERD, GOVANS GLEN BURNIE KOREAN, GRACE, , HAGERSTOWN, HANCOCK,, HAVENWOOD, HOPE, HUGHES MEMORIAL, KENWOOD, KOREAN UNITED, LIGHT STREET, LOCHEARN,. MADISON AVE, MT. HEBRON, MT PARAN, NORTHMINSTER, PERRY HALL, ROLAND PARK ST. ANDREW,. ST. ANDREW'S, TOWSON, TRINITY

COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS

Present: None

Absent: Anita Bishop-Johnson John Brewington, Ed Terry, Donna Lea, Paul Martin Cleoda Walker

CANDIDATES AND INQUIRERS: Troy Bailey (CRE candidate)

YOUTH ADVISORY DELEGATES: None

CERTIFIED LAY EMPLOYEES WITH VOTE: None

FORMER RULING ELDER MODERATORS (with vote): Adrienne Knight (Knox), Jim Schroll (First & Franklin), William Starke; (Good Shepherd). Guy Moody (St John United),

FORMER RULING ELDER STATED CLERKS: Catherine Blacka (First of Howard)

OTHER PRESBYTERY STAFF (without vote): Chuck Brawner, Susan Krehbiel, Frank Perrelli, Felicia Scott, Laura Mullen

GUESTS (without vote): Connie Loveks (Frostburg) Debbie Schmidt (Chestnut Grove), Keith Reagan (Christ Our King); Mark Weadon (Prince of Peace) Emily Park (Second), Stanley Howes (Huntingdon Presbytery), Meaghan Casey (Gallagher Evelius & Jones Law Firm), William Minor (Kenwood), Nancy Bostian (Huntingdon Presbytery)