

# The Presbytery of Elizabeth

Presbyterian Church (USA)

STATED MEETING

## #657

The Presbyterian Church at Pluckemin, NJ

March 19 MMXIII

### Attendance.

Congregation	Teaching Elder		Ruling Elder	
Avenel	Robert Louer (I)	P		A
Basking Ridge (2)	Dennis Jones Maureen Paterson	P A	John Hoare Gary Ingram	P P
Bedminster, Lamington	Matthew Davis [Vacant (A)]	E --		A
Berkeley Heights, Westminster	Diane Ruffle	P	Eugene Daniel	P
Bernardsville, First	Chester Kim	A		A
Carteret, First	[Vacant (P)]	--		A
Clark, Osceola	Brian Croak (I)	P		A
Clinton	Tracey C. Henry	E	Lisa Lomauro	P
Cranford (2)	Chris Kile Valencia Norman (A)	E P	Christine Esposito	P A
Edison, Community	Kenneth Macari	P	Ron Buchmann	P
Edison, Lord of Hope	Chang Woo Lee	P		A
Edison, Oak Tree (2)	Jill Hedlund Kitsko	P		A A
Elizabeth, First (2)	Robert Higgs (D)	P	Patricia Loboda Rafael Rodriguez	P P
Elizabeth, Second (2)	Michael Granzen	P	Rolls Rasoanilana	P A
Elizabeth, Third-Westminster (2)	Frank K Muse (D)	P		A A
Elizabeth, Siloam-Hope (2)	John Howard	P	Helen Mosley	P A
Fanwood (2)	David Jahnke	P	Richard Sharrett	P A
Fords, First (2)	Douglas Kurtz (SS)	A		A A
Garwood (2)	Howard Bryant [I]	P	Anne Tucker	P A
Hillside Millennium (2)	Jupiaci Gomes	E		A A
Iselin, First (2)	James F. Thomas	P	Heather Meyers Paul Raghunandan	P P

Liberty Corner (4)	Donald Feuerbach Anne Havrilla (A)	A E	Don Mayer-Brown Gerard Nelson Jack Paddon Kristen Wallace	P P P P
Linden (2)	William Weaver	P		A A
Linden, Calvin (2)	Ryan Landino	P	Anne Pedersen	P A
Martinsville, Christ (2)	Susan Joseph Rack	P	Jamie Breeding	P A
Metuchen, First (3)	Samuel Massengill Arlo Jones (A) Mercy Rumengan (PA)	P P E	Phyllis Black Jeremy Campbell	P P A
Middlesex (2)	Neal Presa	E	Ruth Mikalonis	P A
Mountainside, Community (2)	Chris Belden	P	Marjorie Bradshaw Nicholas Bradshaw	P P
New Providence (3)	Jeffrey Ebert Michael Flavin (A) Ian Rankine (A)	A A A		A A A
No. Plainfield, Watchung Ave. (2)	Shannan Vance-Ocampo	P	Doug Boleyn	P A
Perth Amboy, First	Peter Hofstra	P		A
Pittstown, Bethlehem	Laurie Sponaugle	E	Alicia Tamilio	P
Plainfield, Bethel	Jonathan Williams (CRE)	P	Paul Broady	P
Plainfield, Crescent Ave	Lynn Santulli (I)	P		A
Plainfield, Nuevas Freonteras	Victor Aloyo, Jr.	A		A
Plainfield, United	Victor Aloyo, Jr. (TS)	A		A
Pluckemin	A. Coile Estes Margaret Mitsuyasu (A)	P P	Karen Eastlund	P
Rahway, First	Brooks Smith (I)	P	Joanne Noblitt	P
Roselle, First	Karen Chamis	E		A
Scotch Plains, Willow Grove	Cynthia Cochran-Carney	P	Sue Buchannan	P
Springfield, First	Victoria M. Ney	E	Don Rathjens	E
Summit, Central (2)	Don Steele John Illian (A) Cynthia Betz-Bogoly (A)	P P P	David Woodbury	P A
Union, Connecticut Farms	Roberta Arrowsmith	E	Bob Glaser	P
Union, Townley	Chris Taylor	P	Lois Tangowski	A
Warren, Trinity United	[Vacant (P)]	--		A
Westfield (3)	Raymond Roberts Mike Samson (A) Emily Wilmarth (A)	P P P	George Harbt David Rogers	P P A
Woodbridge, First	Leslie Dobbs-Allsopp Shelley Gardner (A)	E E		A

**Teaching Elders Engaged in a Validated Ministry (G-2.0503a)**

VACANT, Executive Presbyter (Presbytery of Elizabeth)	--
Nadia Ayoub, Mission Worker, (PUCSA Worldwide Mission - The Ukraine)	E
Paul F. Rack, Stated Clerk (Presbytery of Elizabeth)	P

**Teaching Elders Engaged in a Validated Ministry Beyond the Jurisdiction of the Church (G-2.0503a)**

Isaac Ahn (Evangelical Fellowship Chapel (EFC) of Parsippany, NJ)	A
Nancy Munshour Asbury (Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity)	P
Deirdre Greenwood White (Annisquam Village Ch, Gloucester, MA)	E
Kathryn Henry (Peapack Reformed Church, Gladstone, NJ)	P
Jennifer T. Hrynyk (Community Congregational Ch, Short Hills, NJ)	E
Christina L. McCormick (The Westminster Schools, Atlanta, GA)	E
Dorothy Morris (Norwood Terrace, Plainfield, NJ)	P
Arthur Pace, U.S. Army Chaplain (Pennsylvania)	E

**Members at Large (G-2.0503b)**

Charles Baier	A
Jennifer Butler (Washington DC)	E
Sally Campbell (St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, PA)	P
Lawrence Finn III	P
Leslie Foltz-Morrison (Delmar, NY)	P
Murv Gardiner	A
Philip M. Jones	E
John S. Oh (Fullerton, CA)	E
Young Jin Park	A
Joseph Yoon	A

**Honorably Retired (G-2.0503c)**

Beth Anderson-Domer	E
Helen Beglin	E
Robert Beringer	E
Frederick Black	P
Russell Block	E
George Bonnell	E
Charles Brackbill	E
Howard Bryant [see GARWOOD]	--
Reid S. Byers, Jr.	E
William O Culton	P
John Dunlap, Jr. (Pennsylvania)	E
Else Farr (California)	E
Joseph Garlic	E

Abraham Luckhoff (Georgia)	E
Charles Maxell (Michigan)	E
John Millar (Manitoba Canada)	E
Hibbert Moss	E
Douglas Muller (Pennsylvania)	E
John Naugle (Pennsylvania)	E
Janet Vane Pederson	E
Corina Rodriguez (Oklahoma)	E
Bruce Schundler	P
Timothy J.J. Shu	E
Brooks Smith	P
Mark Smith	E
John Stephenson	P



# Minutes.

## **Call to Order.**

The 657<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Elizabeth was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at the Pluckemin Presbyterian Church, in Pluckemin, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm (EDT), and opened with a reading of Zephaniah 3:17 and a prayer by Linwood Bagby (Elizabeth Second) the Moderator of Presbytery.

A quorum was present.

1. The Moderator introduced the host Pastor, Coile Estes (Pluckemin), who welcomed the presbytery, spoke of the life and mission of the congregation in the community, and explained the facility.
2. First-time commissioners were introduced from the Liberty Corner, Watchung Avenue, and Iselin churches.
3. The presbytery **VOTED** to seat Erin Hayes (Donegal Presbytery) as a Corresponding Member for this meeting. Disaster volunteer Mark Smith was also introduced.

## **Stated Clerk.**

Paul F. Rack (Stated Clerk) presented the Consent Agenda.

### Consent Agenda

1. The distributed Docket for this meeting.
2. The Minutes of the 656<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting.
3. The received Excuses for this meeting. teaching elders Davis, Henry, Kile, Gomes, Havrilla, Rumengan, Presa, Sponaugle, Chamis, Ney, Arrowsmith, Dobbs-Allsopp, Gardner, Hrynyk; and ruling elders Rathjens, Aaroe, Hale, and Tamilio.
4. The Treasurer of Presbytery. (See Appendix I.)
5. Minutes of Presbytery Cabinet for February 5, 2013 and March 5, 2013. (See Appendix II.)
6. The Committee on Ministry: Items 2, 3, 4, 5 & B. (See COM report below.)
7. The request by the Cranford and Pluckemin churches for permission to pay the per capita assessment by installments.
8. Outreach and Social Concerns Unit: expenditures to local mission agencies. (See Appendix III.)
9. The Report of the Transitional Leader Search Team. (See Appendix IV.)

The presbytery **VOTED** to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda.

## **Nominating Committee.**

Susie Krivenko (Rahway), chair, presented the following nominations:

Bills and Overtures Committee

Ruling elder Jeremy Campbell (Metuchen), Class of 2015, Term I

Outreach and Social Concerns

Teaching elder Chris Taylor (Townley), Class of 2015, Term I

The Moderator hearing no nominations from the floor, the presbytery **VOTED** to elect these presbyters to their respective positions.

The presbytery shared **Announcements** from the churches.

**Disaster Response Commission.**

Brooks Smith (HR) reported on the continuing response to the devastation from Superstorm Sandy. Volunteers from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance have been working in our State, some of them staying in churches in our presbytery. He asked if there are any folks in our churches who might want to join them. The Basking Ridge church has a regular team, and other churches have been sending volunteers as well. They are working with groups like the Rahway Linden Unmet Needs Committee (Leslie Foltz-Morrison), and the Long-Term Recovery Committee of Middlesex County (Peter Hofstra).

Peter Hofstra spoke on the efforts of the latter. The pattern is response-relief-recovery. Our presbytery includes several badly damaged areas. The LTRCMC have been working on many different fronts. They need people to work at the recovery center in Sayreville, churches to host volunteer groups, and facilities for sleeping and taking showers.

Finally, presbyter Smith said that there will be opportunities for first responder training, as we get ready for the next storm.

**Education and Discipleship Unit.**

Alicia Tamlino (Bethlehem), chair, presented the report of the Education and Discipleship Unit.

1. The unit is prepared to pay 100% of travel costs for young people to go to the Triennium this summer. We are able to send up to 50 people. So the unit is eager to find young people who want to go from our churches.
2. She also announced that the annual Training Day in the fall will be on October 19, at Princeton Seminary, from 9 am to 12 noon. The dates for the Equipping the Saints event next winter will be on January 11, 2014, also at Princeton Seminary.

**Cabinet.**

Alan Ford, the chair of the Cabinet, introduced the two items to be voted on today.

1. Stewardship Committee.

Barbara McLaughlan (Westfield), chair, presented the proposed 2013 Budget, Second and final Reading. The presbytery **VOTED** to adopt the budget. (See Appendix V.)

2. North Jersey Latino Project.

Peter Hofstra (Perth Amboy) presented a report from the North Jersey Latino Project. The synod has contributed \$30K and each of the 3 presbyteries (Palisades, Newark, and Elizabeth) is asked to contribute \$10K each. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve \$10K from the Greystone Legacy Fund for the North Jersey Latino Project.

**Intentional Conversations.**

The presbytery broke into small group discussion and sharing around several different interests and ministry passions, arising from the presbytery. The groups later reported briefly to the presbytery.

**The Committee on Ministry.**

Jim Thomas (Iselin), chair, presented the report of the Committee on Ministry.

1. He presented Erin Hayes (Donegal Presbytery), the candidate for the position of Pastor at the Rahway church. A congregational meeting was held on February 17, 2013, moderated by Brooks Smith. Erin read her Statement of Faith and responded to questions from the presbytery. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve Erin Hayes for Ordination to the office of teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and upon her ordination by the Presbytery of Donegal, enroll her as a member of the Presbytery of Elizabeth, and approve the terms of her call as Pastor of the Rahway church. Members and pastors from the Rahway church came forward for prayer with Erin led by Doug Grote (HR). The presbytery **VOTED** to authorize the Committee on Ministry to appoint an Administrative Commission to install soon-to-be presbyter Hayes as Pastor of the Rahway church.

<u>Terms of Call.</u>		
Salary	\$30,000	
Housing Allowance	\$30,000	
<b>Total Effective Salary</b>		<b>\$60,000</b>
Pension and Medical	\$19,800 (33% of TES)	
Vacation	One month	
<b>Total Compensation to Pastor</b>		<b>\$79,800</b>
Professional Expense Allowance	\$3,000	
Continuing Education Allowance	\$1,800	
Continuing Education Leave	Two weeks	
<b>Total Cost to Church</b>		<b>\$84,600</b>

*AA/EEO Guidelines were followed.*

2. The presbytery **VOTED** to authorize the Committee on Ministry to appoint an Administrative Commission to ordain Edwin Estevez (Watchung Avenue) to the office of teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA), pending his examination by and reception into membership of the Presbytery of Chicago, and their invitation.
3. The following items were approved earlier with the Consent Agenda for this meeting.
  - a. The approval of the request of the congregation of the First Elizabeth church to call Robert Higgs as Pastor, effective March 1, 2013. A congregational meeting was held on Sunday, February 10, 2013, moderated by Robert Higgs. This is a "half-time" call.

<u>Terms of Call.</u>		
Salary	\$22,350	
Housing Allowance	\$9,000	
<b>Total Effective Salary</b>		<b>\$31,350</b>
Pension & Medical	\$10,346 (33% of TES)	
Dental	\$1,446	
Social Security Offset	\$2,242	
Vacation	15 days	
<b>Total Compensation to Pastor</b>		<b>\$45,384</b>
Professional and Travel Allowance	\$1,500	
Continuing Education Allowance	\$900	
Continuing Education Leave	One week	
<b>Total Cost to Church</b>		<b>\$47,784</b>

- b. The approval of the request of the newly chartered *Iglesia Presbiteriana Nuevas Fronteras* to call Victor Aloyo, Jr., as Organizing Pastor, effective March 17, 2013. This is a part-time call.

Terms of Call.

Salary	\$12,750.00
Housing Allowance	\$10,000.00
<b>Total Effective Salary</b>	<b>\$22,750.00</b>
Pension & Medical	\$7,507.50 (33% of TES)
<b>Total Compensation to Pastor</b>	<b>\$30,257.50</b>
Professional & Travel Allowance	\$1,250.00
Continuing Education Allowance	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Cost to Church</b>	<b>\$32,507.50</b>

- c. The approval of the request of the session of the Christ church to extend the waiver of term limits for ruling elders on session (G-2.0404) until January, 2015.
4. The committee notified the presbytery of actions it has taken on presbytery's behalf under the authority granted to it by the presbytery.
- a. Approved the Administrative Commission to install teaching elder Diane Ruffle (Westminster) as Pastor of the Westminster church on March 10, 2013.

Ruling elders

Linwood Bagby (Elizabeth Second), Moderator  
 Janet Bentley (Basking Ridge)  
 Eugene Daniel (Westminster)  
 Patricia Loboda (Elizabeth First)

Teaching elders

Christopher Belden (Mountainside)  
 A. Coile Estes (Pluckemin)  
 Valencia Norman (Cranford)  
 James Thomas (Iselin)

- b. Approved the request of the session of the Avenel church to enter into a six-month Interim Pastor Covenant with Robert C. Louer, III, (New York City Presbytery) effective February 15, 2013. The committee examined presbyter Louer and received him as a member of presbytery.

Terms of Covenant.

Salary	\$28,500
Pension & Medical	\$9,422 (33% of Salary)
Dental	\$500
Social Security Offset	\$2,041
<b>Total Compensation to Pastor</b>	<b>40,463</b>
Professional & Travel Allowance	\$1,500
Continuing Education Allowance	\$1,000
<b>Total Cost to Church</b>	<b>\$42,963</b>

- c. Approved the request of the session of the Crescent Avenue church to extend for one-year the Interim Pastor Covenant with Lynn Santulli, effective March 5, 2013.

Terms of Covenant.

Salary	\$27,800
Housing & Utilities	\$25,000
<b>Total Effective Salary</b>	<b>\$52,800</b>
Pension & Medical	\$17,028 (33% of TES)
<b>Total Compensation to Pastor</b>	<b>\$69,828</b>
Professional & Travel Allowance	\$3,000
Continuing Education Allowance	\$1,800
<b>Total Cost to Church</b>	<b>\$74,628</b>

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry.**

Ryan Landino (Calvin), a member of the committee, presented the report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. He brought the recommendation of the committee to move Inquirer Alicia Toke (Carteret) to Candidate status. Presbyter Toke read her Statement of Sense of Call and was examined by the presbytery.



The presbytery **VOTED** to enroll Alicia Toke as a Candidate under its care. Members of the Committee as well as friends and family of Alicia came forward for prayer with her by presbyter Landino.

**The Bills and Overtures Committee.**

Jack Paddon (Liberty Corner), chair, presented a report from the Bills and Overtures Committee, indicating that they will be bringing to the May Stated Meeting their recommendations on the various Constitutional Amendments from the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2012)

**Adjourn.**

The presbytery **VOTED** to adjourn at 9:37 pm (EDT) with prayer by the Moderator.

Attest:

Paul F. Rack  
Stated Clerk