

The Presbytery of Elizabeth

Presbyterian Church (USA)

STATED MEETING

#658

First Presbyterian Church, Iselin, NJ

May 28 MMXIII

Attendance.

Congregation	Teaching Elder		Ruling Elder	
Avenel	Robert Louer (I)	P	Gay Patrouch	P
Basking Ridge (2)	Dennis Jones Maureen Paterson	P A	Katja Gruening John Hoare	P P
Bedminster, Lamington	Matthew Davis [Vacant (A)]	E --		A
Berkeley Heights, Westminster	Diane Ruffle	E	Eugene Daniel	E
Bernardsville, First	Chester Kim	A		A
Carteret, First	[Vacant (P)]	--		A
Clark, Osceola	Brian Croak (I)	P	Jane Santiago	P
Clinton	Tracey C. Henry	P	Lisa Lomauro	P
Cranford (2)	Chris Kile Valencia Norman (A)	P E	Amy Aaroe	P A
Edison, Community	Kenneth Macari	P	Pat Meyer	P
Edison, Lord of Hope	Chang Woo Lee	P		A
Edison, Oak Tree (2)	Jill Hedlund Kitsko	E		A A
Elizabeth, First (2)	Robert Higgs (D)	P	Rafael Rodriguez	P A
Elizabeth, Second (2)	Michael Granzen	P	Linwood Bagby	P A
Elizabeth, Third-Westminster (2)	Frank K Muse (D)	A		A A
Elizabeth, Siloam-Hope (2)	John Howard	E		A A
Fanwood (2)	David Jahnke	P	Richard Sharrett Judy Wussler	E P
Fords, First (2)	Douglas Kurtz (SS)	A		A A
Garwood (2)	Howard Bryant [I]	P		A A
Hillside Millennium (2)	Jupiaci Gomes	P		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	David Erlenborn Don Mayer-Brown Gerard Nelson Jack Paddon	P P P P
Linden (2)	William Weaver	P		A A
Linden, Calvin (2)	Ryan Landino	P	Lynne Habrak	P A
Martinsville, Christ (2)	Susan Joseph Rack	P		A A
Metuchen, First (3)	Samuel Massengill Arlo Jones (A) Mercy Rumengan (PA)	P P P	Phyllis Black Jeremy Campbell Nancy Leardi	P P P
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	A		A
Pittstown, Bethlehem	Laurie Sponaugle	E	Alicia Tamilio	P
Plainfield, Bethel	Jonathan Williams (CRE)	A	Paul Broady	P
Plainfield, Crescent Ave	Lynn Santulli (I)	P	Janice Haer	P
Plainfield, Nuevas Fronteras	Victor Aloyo, Jr.	A	Ruth Arriaza	P
Plainfield, United	Victor Aloyo, Jr. (TS)	A		A
Pluckemin	A. Coile Estes Margaret Mitsuyasu (A)	P E		A
Rahway, First	Erin Hayes	P	Al Shipley	P
Roselle, First	Karen Chamis	A		A
Scotch Plains, Willow Grove	Cynthia Cochran-Carney	P	Jon Finne	P
Springfield, First	Victoria M. Ney	P	Dawn Clarke	P
Summit, Central (2)	Don Steele John Illian (A) Cynthia Betz-Bogoly (A)	P E P	Paul Collins Jim Conners	P P
Union, Connecticut Farms	Roberta Arrowsmith	P	John Griffen	P
Union, Townley	Chris Taylor	A		A
Warren, Trinity United	[Vacant (P)]	--		A
Westfield (3)	Raymond Roberts Mike Samson (A) Emily Wilmarth (A)	A E P	David Rogers	P A A
Woodbridge, First	Leslie Dobbs-Allsopp Shelley Gardner (A)	P P	Tom Walsh	P

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)	A
Deirdre Greenwood White (Annisquam Village Ch, Gloucester, MA)	E
Kathryn Henry (Peapack Reformed Church, Gladstone, NJ)	E
Jennifer T. Hrynyk (Community Congregational Ch, Short Hills, NJ)	P
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	P
Jennifer Butler (Washington DC)	E
Sally Campbell (St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, PA)	P
Lawrence Finn III	A
Leslie Foltz-Morrison (Delmar, NY)	E
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
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
Leonard Grant (Florida)	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	E
Timothy J.J. Shu	E
Brooks Smith	E
Mark Smith	E
John Stephenson	P

Minutes.

Prior to the Call to Order, presbyters gathered for a “brown-bag” dinner & Intentional Conversations, with tables reserved for discussion of Disaster Response Issues, the presbytery budget and financials, and other issues, concerns, and opportunities

Worship.

The presbytery celebrated the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, with a sermon by Arlo Jones (Metuchen).

Call to Order.

The 658th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Elizabeth was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, at the First Presbyterian Church, in Iselin, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 7:16 pm (EDT), and opened with a prayer by Linwood Bagby (Elizabeth Second) the Moderator of Presbytery.

A quorum was present.

1. The Moderator introduced the host Pastor, Jim Thomas (Iselin), who welcomed the presbytery, mentioning that the church has recently celebrated its 80th anniversary. He spoke of the life and mission of the congregation in the community, and explained the facility.
2. First-time commissioners were introduced from the Osceola and Central churches, as well as Ruth Arriaza, the *primero* first-time commissioner from the presbytery’s newest chartered congregation, *Nuevas Fronteras*.
3. The presbytery **VOTED** to seat Cheryl Galan (Northern Kansas Presbytery) as a Corresponding Member for this meeting.

Stated Clerk.

Paul F. Rack (LOB), the Stated Clerk, presented his report, consisting mostly of the following Consent Agenda.

1. The distributed Docket for this meeting.
2.
 - a. Approve the Minutes of the 657th Stated Meeting,
 - b. Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting on March 24, 2013.
3. Approve the Excuses gathered before this meeting. teaching elders Davis, Ruffle, Norman, Kitsko, Howard, Havrilla, Presa, Sponaugle, Mitsuyasu, Illian, Samson, Henry, P Jones; and ruling elders Daniel, Sharrett, and Hale.
4. Receive the report of the Treasurer of Presbytery (see Appendix I).
5. Receive for information the Minutes of Presbytery Cabinet for May 7, 2013, including the First Reading of proposed changes in the Stated Clerk Position Description. (See Appendix II.)
6. Enroll Noris Marchand-Juan (*Nuevas Fronteras*) as an Inquirer, at the recommendation of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry
7. Approve selected items from the report of the Committee on Ministry (see report below).

8. Authorize the Woodbridge church to sell its manse, at the recommendation of the Trustees of Presbytery. (See Appendix III.)
9. Approve the allocation of \$6K from Outreach and Social Concerns Unit Grant Monies to Restore Ministries.
10. Approve the presbytery parity standard for 2013-2014. (See Appendix IV.)
11. Receive the following annual Roster of Former Permanent Judicial Commission Members:
 - Teaching elder Helen Beglin (HR)
 - Teaching elder Deirdre Greenwood White (SM)
12. Receive the following report of the review by the Synod of the Northeast of the 2012 Presbytery Minutes:
 - The Minutes of Elizabeth Presbytery for 2012 are Approved with one exception:
 - there was no report of the Committee on Representation.
 - Commendations:
 - Time is often given during presbytery meetings for people to speak out about what is happening in their churches.
 - The presbytery dismissed the Dunellen church to the "ECO" through the use of a covenant of gracious separation and dismissal.
 - Approved Disaster Response Plan just in time for Hurricane Sandy.
13. Receive the report of the Committee on Representation. (See Appendix V.)
14. Receive the Annual Statistical Report for 2012. (See Appendix VI.)
15. Receive the Annual Report of the Roll of Presbytery for 2012. (See Appendix VII.)

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

Education and Discipleship Unit.

Alicia Tamilio (Bethlehem), chair, made some announcements on behalf of the education and Discipleship Unit: The annual multi-presbytery training opportunity called "Nuts and Bolts" will be held on October 17, at the Hightstown church. The Youth Triennium will be held on July 16-20, at Purdue University, in Indiana; generous scholarships are available.

Disaster Response Commission.

Brooks Smith (HR) gave some announcements from the commission about groups leaving to do work every Saturday, led by Mike Rountree (Basking Ridge). Cameron Stevens, our Disaster Response Coordinator, has organized several initiatives, with people coming in from all over the country. They hope to host even more groups through the summer and fall. We expect this to be a five-year process.

Cabinet.

Transitional Leader Search Team.

Shannan Vance-Ocampo (Watchung Avenue), co-chair, gave the report of the Transitional Leader Search Team. She reviewed the process followed by the Team, which was formed by the presbytery in November, 2012. They received 11 resumes and went through a rigorous interview process. She then joyfully introduced the candidate for Transitional Leader, Cheryl Galan (Northern Kansas Presbytery), who impressed the team with her qualifications in coaching and conflict management. She has innovative skills in congregational development, is detail oriented, and seeks to understand our history and context. The Team was unanimous in its selection. The Cabinet and Committee on Ministry met together a week ago with

presbyter Galan via Skype, and unanimously voted to recommend her to the presbytery. Presbyter Vance-Ocampo thanked the Team, mentioning them by name, and the presbytery staff, for their assistance in this process.

Committee on Ministry.

Jim Thomas then spoke on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, which is also recommending Cheryl Galan for the position of Transitional Presbyter. Presbyter Galan then answered questions from the presbytery, and spoke, first thanking the Team, Cabinet, and Committee on Ministry. She is convinced that “God is stirring the waters here,” and calling the presbytery to gather around a purpose and mission already emerging here. She comes without answers and solutions, but with her sleeves rolled up to join in the work of cultivating a community in Christ in our presbytery.

The presbytery **VOTED** (unanimously) to approve Cheryl Galan as our new Transitional Leader, the Terms of her Call with the presbytery, and enroll her as a member of Elizabeth Presbytery. Her two-year, renewable covenant with the presbytery will commence on July 15, 2013.

<u>Terms of Call</u>	
Salary/Housing (Division TBD)	\$80,000
Total Effective Salary	\$80,000
Pension, Medical	\$26,400 <i>(33% of TES)</i>
Social Security Offset (7.65%)	\$6,627
Moving Expenses	\$15,000
Vacation	4 weeks
Total Compensation	\$128,027
Professional Expenses	\$7,500
Continuing Education	\$3,000
Continuing Education Leave	2 weeks
Total Cost to Presbytery	\$138,527
<i>AA/EEO Guidelines were followed.</i>	

The presbytery **VOTED** to dissolve the Search Team with great thanks for their hard and fruitful work.

The presbytery then broke for a party to welcome our new Transitional Leader!

The committee also reported the following actions:

1. In the Consent Agenda for this meeting, the presbytery approved the following Administrative Commission to install teaching elder Erin Meredith Hayes as Pastor of the Rahway church on Sunday, June 2, 2013, at 3 pm, at the Rahway church.

Ruling Elders

Linwood Bagby (Elizabeth Second), the Moderator of Presbytery, presiding
 Susie Krivenko (Rahway)*
 Carlos Allende (Rahway)*

Teaching Elders

James Thomas (Iselin)
 Shannan Vance-Ocampo (Watching Avenue)

*The Committee authorized two ruling elders from the same church in this special case, as presbyters Krivenko and Allende represent respectively the "old" First and Second congregations, now recently merged into one.

2. Under authority granted to it by the presbytery under G-3.0106, the committee acted on behalf of presbytery to approve the following Administrative Commission to install teaching elder Tracey Cowan Henry as Pastor of the Clinton church on Sunday, May 19, 2013, at 4:30 pm, at the Clinton church.

Ruling Elders

Linwood Bagby (Elizabeth Second), the Moderator of Presbytery, presiding
 Alan Ford (Bethlehem)
 Richard Prakopcyk (Clinton)

Teaching Elders

Shannan Vance-Ocampo (Watching Avenue)

Emily Wilmarth (Westfield)

Nominating Committee.

Susie Krivenko (Rahway), chair, presented the report of the Nominating Committee. She placed into nomination the following presbyters:

	<u>Class</u>
<u>Moderator of Presbytery</u> Teaching Elder Shannan Vance-Ocampo	2014
<u>Vice-Moderator of Presbytery</u> Ruling Elder Phyllis Black (Metuchen)	2014
<u>Audit Committee</u> Ruling Elder Bonnie Ruggiero (Willow Grove)	2016
<u>Personnel Committee</u> Teaching Elder Diane Ruffle (Westminster)	2016 (Term II)
<u>Trustees of Presbytery</u> Teaching Elder Sam Massengill (Metuchen)	2016 (Term II) Chair
<u>Cabinet</u> Teaching Elder Brian Croak (Osceola)	2016 (Synod Representative)

There being no nominations from the floor, the presbytery **VOTED** to elect these presbyters to these positions.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

Bobbie Arrowsmith (Connecticut Farms), chair, presented Inquirer Jeremy Campbell (Metuchen), whom the committee is recommending for advancement to Candidacy status. Mr. Campbell came forward and read to the presbytery his Statement of sense of Call. He then responded to the questions of the presbytery.

The presbytery **VOTED** to enroll Jeremy Campbell as a Candidate under care of this presbytery. Sam Massengill spoke by way of personal privilege about Jeremy’s long journey to this point, and offered a prayer with and for him.

Bills and Overtures Committee.

Jack Paddon (Liberty Corner), chair, presented the report of the Bills and Overtures Committee, which consisted of its recommendations on the proposed Constitutional Amendments submitted to the presbyteries from the 220th General Assembly (2012). He thanked the members of the committee. Following discussion and debate, the presbytery **VOTED** by ballot as follows:

	yes-no	
<u>Book of Confessions</u> 12-1 Inclusion of the proposed new translation of the Heidelberg Catechism, with accompanying Scriptural references. On Amending 4.001-4.129:	50-8	Approved
<u>Book of Order</u> 12-A. Business Proper to Congregational Meetings. On Amending G-1.0503:	50-0	Approved
12-B. Gifts and Qualifications. On Amending G-2.0104a:	15-36	Not Approved
12-C. Presbytery Registers. On Amending G-3.0104 and G-3.0305:	51-0.	Approved
12-D. Shared Synod Permanent Judicial Commission:		
12.D.1. Judicial Commissions. On Amending G-3.0109a:	50-1.	Approved
12.D.2. Administrative Commissions. On Amending G-3.0109b(6):	49-2.	Approved

12-D.3. Reduced Function. On Amending G-3.0404:	49-1.	Approved
12-D.4. Permanent Judicial Commissions. On Amending D-5.0101:	47-2.	Approved
12-D.5. Permanent Judicial Commission Expenses. On Amending D-5.0106:	47-2.	Approved
12-D.6. Permanent Judicial Commission Meetings. On Amending D-5.0203:	48-1.	Approved
12-D.7. Permanent Judicial Commissions Quorum. On Amending D-5.0206:	48-1.	Approved
12-D.8. Initiating a Remedial Case. On Amending D-6.0101:	48-1.	Approved
12-D.9. Filing a Complaint in a Remedial Case. On Amending D-6.0202a(6):	48-1.	Approved
12-E. Enrolling Ruling Elders as Members of Presbytery. On Amending G-3.0301:	47-3.	Approved
12-F. Concurrences for Overtures. On Amending G-3.0302d:	41-10.	Approved
12-G. Service of Ordination, Installation, or Commissioning. On Amending W-4.4002:	46-5.	Approved
12-H. Jurisdiction in Judicial Process. On Amending D-3.0101b(2):	48-1.	Approved
12-I. Administrative Leave. On Amending D-10.0106:	48-1.	Approved
12-J. Investigating Committee Responsibilities. On Amending D-10.0202:	48-1.	Approved

Adjourn.

The presbytery **VOTED** to adjourn at 9:22 PM (EDT), with prayer by Cheryl Galan.

Attest:

Paul F. Rack,
Stated Clerk