

Commission on Ministry (COM) Report to Presbytery- February 27, 2018

Information Items

Ordination Anniversaries

As is the custom of Carlisle Presbytery, special recognition will be given at the February 27, 2018 presbytery meeting of Pastors celebrating their 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th and 50th anniversaries of their ordination. The following Pastors will be recognized:

Brad Bradburn- 50th
Bruce Humphrey- 40th
Ron Martin-Minnich- 40th
Dale Williams- 40th
Tony Lorenz- 10th
Robin Morgan- 10th
Steve Velthuis- 10th

COM voted to approve the Validated Ministries of the persons listed below for 2018:
Peter Dietz, Arlene Dunn, Mark Englund-Krieger, Anne Myers, Charles (Buz) Myers, Don Opitz, Lois Richwine, Rachel Schwab, Kristal Smith, Anne Stewart, Drew Stockstill, Sandra Strauss, David True, Steve Velthuis, Derek Wadlington and Howard West.

COM voted to renew the Member at Large status for 2018 of the Pastors listed below:
Christine Callaway, Kent Carter, Tom Folts, Paul Fulmer, Rosie Magee, Troy Morgan, Candace Veon-Nyiri and Kathryn Yaroschuk.

COM voted to renew Rev. Emily Morgan as a Member-at-Large but will maintain the special conditions that were a part of her granting of Member at Large status for 2017: *(The Commission of Ministry will not approve a transfer for Rev. Morgan to another presbytery, nor approve a Call or any temporary pastoral position at any Church in Carlisle Presbytery for one year. At the end of one year, her membership status and the special conditions will be reviewed by the Commission on Ministry.)*

COM voted to ask Rev. Morgan to participate in a ministry assessment evaluation similar to the one offered by the Samaritan Counseling Center in Lancaster Pa.

COM voted to approve the request from Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church's Session to allow Rev. Phillip Unger to continue his role as Temporary Pastor in 2018.

COM voted to approve the renewal of the Covenant of Agreement for 2018 between the Session of Duncannon Presbyterian Church and Revs. Suzanne and Roger Uittenbogaard Co-Interim Pastors.

An Email vote was taken on November 30, 2017 resulting in the approval of the Ministry Information Form for a Transitional Pastor at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church.

COM voted to grant Rev. Jennifer McKenna the status of Honorably Retired, effective January 1, 2018.

COM voted to approve the staffing model presented by Second Presbyterian Church in Carlisle and gave permission to the congregation to elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. (APNC)

COM voted to approve the Mission Information Form presented by Camp Hill Presbyterian Church's Session in regard to hiring an Interim Pastor.

Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee of the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church presented to the Commission on Ministry, a Covenant of Agreement (COA) between the Session of the Lower Marsh Creek church and Rev. Dr. Mark Englund-Krieger to be their Transitional Pastor. This would be for a two-year term. As a result, Mark announced he would be resigning as Executive Presbyter of Carlisle Presbytery effective March 16, 20.

The COM met with Mark and the Lower Marsh Creek representatives together and also met with the Lower Marsh Creek delegation and Mark separately. It was noted that there was no statement in the COA that Mark would not seek to become the Installed Pastor at the Lower Marsh Creek. The representatives and Mark stated that the long-term plan was to Call Mark as their Installed Pastor.

Stated Clerk Jim Speedy noted even though the Book of Order allows for an exception (*G-2.0504c*) to be made to the provision in *G-2.0504b* of the Book of Order that states “*a minister of Word and Sacrament employed in a temporary pastoral relationship is ordinarily not eligible to serve as the next installed pastor, co-pastor or associate pastor*”, the Lower Marsh Creek congregation would still have to form an Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and conduct a “full and open search” when the time came to Call an installed pastor. A “full and open search” is a policy of Carlisle Presbytery and is one where the congregation would follow the policy and process of Carlisle Presbytery when a church is seeking to Call an installed pastor or associate pastor, which includes seeking other candidates for the installed pastor position. If the PNC determines that they want to Call Mark to be their installed pastor, the PNC would have to meet with COM to request that such an exception be presented for a vote at a presbytery meeting. The recommendation would have to be approved by an affirmative vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members of presbytery and commissioners present and voting. COM approved a “Policy for Making Exceptions in Calling a Pastor” at its November 10, 2016 meeting. **(See Attachment 1)**

COM voted unanimously to approve the Covenant of Agreement between the Session of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church and Rev. Dr. Mark Englund-Krieger, effective March 16, 2018, to be their Transitional Pastor for a two-year period, which is renewable.

COM voted to grant an exception to Carlisle Presbytery's "Definitions of Pastoral Relationships" policy that states that Temporary Pastoral Positions may be up to twelve months. This exception thereby permits the Covenant of Agreement between Rev. Mark Englund-Krieger and the Session of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church to serve as their Transitional Pastor, to be for a period of two years, which can be renewed with the permission of the Commission on Ministry.

COM voted to appoint Rev. Dr. Mark Englund-Krieger to moderate the January and February 2018 meetings of the Session of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church.

COM voted to appoint Rev. Don Potter to moderate the Annual Congregational Meeting of the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church in February, 2018.

COM voted to approve the dissolution agreement between the congregation of Greencastle Presbyterian Church and Rev. Douglas Beltzner, pending the affirmative vote of the congregation at a congregational meeting called for February 18, 2018. COM voted to appoint Rev. Bill Beck to moderate the February 18, 2019 Greencastle Presbyterian Church Congregational meeting.

With the resignation of Executive Presbyter Mark Englund-Krieger, COM discussed the need to provide pastoral care for Pastors between the time Mark leaves (March 15, 2018) and an Interim Executive Pastor is hired. As a result, COM appointed Rev. Ellen Crawford-True and Rev. Kristal Smith to develop a proposal/plan for pastoral care of Pastors and submit it to COM for review and approval.

COM voted to concur with the action of the congregation of Camp Hill Presbyterian Church to dissolve the Call of Rev. David Roquemore as the church's pastor effective February 2, 2018 and to transfer Rev. Roquemore to Western North Carolina Presbytery.

COM voted to appoint the Rev. Myrtle McCall as Moderator of Camp Hill Presbyterian Church's Session until an Interim Pastor is hired.

COM voted to transfer the membership of Rev. Rick Sweeney to Redstone Presbytery.

COM voted to grant to Rev. Douglas Beltzner the status of Member at Large of Carlisle Presbytery effective February 19, 2018.

Attachment 1

Commission on Ministry- Presbytery of Carlisle Policy on Making Exceptions in Calling a Pastor

The Book of Order states in section G-2.0504a”An Associate Pastor is ordinarily not eligible to be the next installed Pastor of that congregation.” It also states in section G-2.0504b”a Teaching Elder employed in a Temporary pastoral relationship is ordinarily not eligible to serve as the next pastor installed Pastor, Co-Pastor or Associate Pastor.

However in G-2.0504c the Book of Order states

c. Exceptions

“A presbytery may determine that its mission strategy permits a teaching elder currently called as an Associate Pastor to be eligible to serve as the next installed pastor or co-pastor, or a teaching elder employed in a temporary pastoral relationship to be eligible to serve as the next installed pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor. Presbyteries that permit this eligibility shall establish such relationships only by a three-fourths vote of the members of presbytery present and voting.”

Below is the policy of the Commission on Ministry in regard to dealing with this allowed exception.

The Pastor or Associate Pastor Nominating Committee of a particular congregation, shall produce a written report listing their justifications and rationale as to why this is an exceptional case. The representatives of the PNC (APNC) along with the Candidate shall meet with the Commission on Ministry and present their request for exception both orally and in written form.

The Commission on Ministry after meeting with the PNC (APNC) and the Candidate may pass along the request for exception to the presbytery at a regularly stated meeting. The PNC (APNC) will present a written and oral report to the presbytery as to why the exception should be granted. The presbytery may examine the Candidate at the meeting. The Presbytery may vote to grant the exception and establish the pastoral relationship by an affirmative vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members of presbytery present and voting, prior to the approval of the Call by the congregation.