

Administration Committee Report to Presbytery October 2020

We are so thankful for the continued financial generosity of the churches in Carlisle Presbytery, even in this year of uncertainty. Your giving, through mission and per capita offerings, has remained strong. This makes it possible for the presbytery to ***deepen relationships among pastors and across congregations***: for pastors, we're hosting weekly Zoom gatherings, several monthly support groups, and a new cohort for pastors, led by MaryAnn McKibben Dana. This summer over 50 people across 15 congregations participated in a book study about race. Your gifts also contribute to ***a strong and engaged Commission on Ministry***, actively working to support our congregations, especially in times of pastoral transition, conflict, or change. And you've made it possible for us to ***maintain effective communication*** during this time of physical distancing: e-newsletters keep us connected to the information we need and help us stay grounded in God, as our congregations navigate ever-changing conditions. A Zoom Pro bundle for our small churches puts an essential tool within financial reach, and we're now able to use our web-site, social media and You Tube channel to curate and deliver content that all congregations may use and share. Like loaves and fish in the hands of Jesus, your gifts, have been multiplied through our connectional system to ***support vulnerable neighbors*** - locally, through Krislund, Lend-A-Hand, and in Honduras. Thanks to your generosity, we've begun to learn what it means to thrive as ***the church dispersed, deployed and distributed***. Thank you for your faithful witness to the love of God!

Budget 2021

Ordinarily, at our fall Presbytery meeting, the Administration Committee presents a proposed budget for the coming year for a first reading. This year, we're working with variables that have delayed the process. A significant portion of the budget has gone into maintaining the offices at 3040 Market St. With the sale of the building, we're taking our time with the question of what we actually need, to carry out the functions of a 21st century presbytery. We're dismantling the Resource Center, donating office supplies and furnishings that are no longer needed, and looking for a new configuration of office space, with a much smaller footprint. As we continue to carry out many functions of the presbytery in digital spaces, expenses coming from events we would ordinarily do 'in person' and from staff travel remain unpredictable. On the income side, we're noticing some changes in patterns of congregational giving, especially in the area of designated giving to the presbytery. We need some more time to sort out these variables before bringing a budget to the presbytery for your action.

Meanwhile, for your planning purposes we're pleased to tell you that the Per Capita amount for 2021 remains unchanged. **Total Per Capita is \$27.20**

As we complete the budgeting process, we'll get a proposed 2021 budget out to Sessions with ample time for your feedback. At our December 1 meeting, we'll bring the budget to the presbytery, for discussion and action.

Property Sale

The Administration Committee approved the sale of property at 303 Shepherdstown Rd, Mechanicsburg, Pa formerly used as a manse and owned by Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church for \$195,336 with closing scheduled for September 24, 2020.

Renewal of Covenant of Agreement with the Interim Executive Presbyter

Almost two years Cheryl Galan came to our Presbytery as our Interim Executive Presbyter, to help lead us in the future God is calling us to. And we embarked on that journey with Cheryl. She has challenged us to think in new ways and even challenged us to Canoe the Mountains. And then suddenly, through a pandemic, we found ourselves facing the Rockies. Cheryl switched gears and began helping us learn how to ditch the canoes so we could navigate this new and unsettling territory. Through staff changes, zoom meetings and now office moving Cheryl has kept our 'corps of discovery' steady. We are so grateful for her gifts and abilities as she leads us with grace.

As the time came for an annual review, the Administration Committee's Personnel team solicited evaluations from the committees with whom the Executive works. On the basis of the responses we received and in conversation with Cheryl, the Administration Committee acted to renew the presbytery's Covenant of Agreement with her. This enables us to continue on this journey with continuity, stability and great leadership in place.

The duties, expectations and financial terms of the original Covenant Agreement have been extended for another two years, with flexibility the key word as we move forward into the unknown. These changes were unanimously approved by the Administration Committee, with the concurrence of the Coordinating Council.