

## MINUTES OF THE MARCH 15, 2022 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF CARLISLE

### Attachments

1. Roll for Attendance at March 15 Special Meeting of the Presbytery

### Abbreviations

- AC, PJC Administrative Commission, Permanent Judicial Commission
- BOO, BOC *Book of Order – The Constitution of the PC(USA) Part II, Book of Confessions*
- BOP Board of Pensions
- CCE Certified Christian Educator
- COA Covenant of Agreement
- COM, CPM Commission on Ministry, Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- GA, OGA, SOT General Assembly, Office of General Assembly, Synod of the Trinity
- IEP Interim Executive Presbyter
- MSP Motion Seconded, Discussed, and Passed (if it comes from committee, MP only)
- NC, PNC Nominating Committee, Pastor Nominating Committee
- PC, PW Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Women
- TE, MWS Teaching Elder, Minister of Word and Sacrament
- RE, CRE, REC Ruling Elder, Commissioned Ruling Elder, Ruling Elder Commissioner
- TSC Temporary Stated Clerk

The Special Meeting of Carlisle Presbytery was called to order and **opened with prayer** at 12:30 PM via Zoom by Moderator Neal McCulloch with reference to Hebrews 13:5, “Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, “I will never leave you or forsake you.”

Zoom instructions were given for being recognized by the moderator and voting. Guests from Silver Spring and Lower Marsh Creek PCs were welcomed, including Carlin Wenger, Diane Lupia, Isaac Bucher, Larry Espenshade, Melanie Pepperman, Lisa Chase, and Mary Pogue Hope. There were no Corresponding Members. 71 individuals were present at the start of the meeting.

**ACTION: Motion, Seconded, Discussed and Passed (MSP throughout) MSP** to adopt the docket.

### Report of COM – Examination of Candidate Lisa Chase for Ministry of Word and Sacrament

Moderator McCulloch read from the BOO *G-2.0103 Call to Ordered Ministry and G-2.0104 Gifts and Qualifications* and called on TE Anthony Lorenz, COM Co-Chair, to bring forward the Report of the COM to introduce the candidate.

TE Lorenz informed the presbytery that Lisa Chase is under the care of the New Castle Presbytery. Her education includes Hollins University (Roanoke VA – BA), University of North Carolina – Greensboro (MBA), and Lancaster Theological Seminary (MDiv). She has completed all of the requirements for ordination, including the standard ordination exams. She comes to ministry as a second career, having worked in communication and funds development for non-profit organizations. Candidate Chase has been in conversation with the APNC of the Silver Spring PC, and together they have discerned a sense of God’s call to the position of Associate Pastor.

The Candidate's Statement of Faith and Spiritual Autobiography were posted with meeting materials. Having grown up in and served a Presbyterian church as youth leader, Sunday School teacher and Deacon, she heard and deferred for years God's call on her life to MWS. Through significant losses and financial struggles, she has learned the importance of prayer, and experienced God's faithfulness. Her Statement concluded: "Through the Lord's Supper, we remember [Jesus'] life, death and resurrection, we anticipate the heavenly banquet to come, and we are to do all Christ has called us to do and be, in remembrance of Him – His hands, feet, ears, eyes, mind and heart, and service to others, so that we may work on behalf of God's Kingdom."

As is our custom, the Candidate was asked to proclaim God's Word as a part of her examination. After the sermon, Moderator McCulloch reminded presbyters that questions relative to the sermon, Statement of Faith, Spiritual Autobiography, the Bible, Sacraments, Polity, Theology, and the Candidate's sense of call to Silver Spring PC were appropriate.

Questions included further exploration of the relationship of the Trinity in our daily lives, "unhealthy egos" (referenced in the Candidate's Statement of Faith), and Lancaster Seminary's affect on her theology. Candidate Chase engaged appreciatively, mentioning how seminary helped her "deconstruct" a Sunday School understanding of Scripture; she now has a greater appreciation for diversity and others' perspectives. Through the examination she also referenced the PC(USA) BOC and polity. Upon hearing the Candidate's reflection on why an omnipotent and omniscient God allows a child to live in a subway, one presbyter encouraged her turn to various resources that challenge Biblical understanding.

**ACTION: MSP** to call the question.

Candidate Chase was moved to the Zoom waiting room.

Moderator McCulloch called on COM Co-Chair Lorenz, who offered a motion to approve Lisa Chase as a MWS in the PC(USA), which was seconded. Robust discussion followed.

**ACTION: The motion having been made and seconded, the presbytery voted to approve Lisa Chase as Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA), with the way being clear for ordination by the Presbytery of Carlisle, pending a call from the Silver Spring Presbyterian Church.**

Ms. Chase was brought back from the waiting room. Presbyters celebrated God's Faithfulness with her. TE Don Wahlig (Silver Spring) was invited to close the examination with prayer: "Calling God, God of love and light...we pray your blessing on Lisa. Give her the assurance of your call on her life..."

#### **Petition from the Lower Marsh Creek PC**

Moderator McCulloch encouraged presbyters that in their consideration of the petition of the Lower Marsh Creek PC, they should be guided by the BOO: *"A presbytery may determine that its mission strategy permits a minister of the Word and Sacrament currently called as an Associate Pastor to be eligible to serve as the next installed pastor or co-pastor, or a minister of the Word and Sacrament 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."* (G-2.0504c)

Moderator McCulloch called on Doyle Waybright, (Lower Marsh Creek PC, REC), to present the petition in the form of a motion. REC Waybright read: *The Lower Marsh Creek Transition Team, on behalf of the Session, moves that the presbytery grant the exception, in order that the Rev. Dr. Mark Englund-Krieger may be eligible to serve as the next installed pastor of the Lower Marsh Creek PC.*

Once the motion was seconded, Moderator McCulloch, before opening the floor to discussion, invited REC Waybright, on behalf of the Transition Team and Session, to speak to the motion. REC Waybright informed the presbytery that “Rev. Englund-Krieger has had a substantial impact on the life of LMPC. The results of the church assessment support what leadership has witnessed. Based on the evidence noted in our petition, the Transitional Ministry Team in the name of the Session of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church believe that the rationale supports the mission strategy of the Presbytery of Carlisle. The relationship of Pastor and Congregation at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church and the works resulting from this relationship make for a vital, strong, spiritually led community enhancing the life and work of the Presbytery of Carlisle for faithful service to God in the name of Jesus Christ.”

Moderator McCulloch called upon COM Co-Chair Lorenz who offered the following motion and rationale, based on an extensive, well-prepared 2,500-word, 10-page Petition to File for Exception from Lower Marsh Creek PC, and COM’s Recommendation (including Timeline), posted with meeting materials: *“The Commission on Ministry recommends that the presbytery vote in favor of granting this “exception” to the standard way of calling a pastor so that it may call and install the Reverend Mark Englund-Krieger as its pastor.”*

- For more than two years, COM has walked alongside the transition team, the Session and Rev. Englund-Krieger. (See process and timeline on COM’s report posted with meeting materials).
- The pastoral relationship between the Lower Marsh Creek PC and Rev. Mark Englund-Krieger is effective in serving the church’s ministry and mission.
- With over half of the churches of Carlisle Presbytery in pastoral transitions, with a denomination-wide shortage in Interim/Transitional pastors, and in the upheaval brought by the COVID pandemic, the mission strategy of the presbytery includes flexible approaches to filling the needs of our congregations for pastoral leadership.
- In this case, the church’s transition work has been completed and the congregation has had opportunity to offer feedback regarding Rev. Englund-Krieger’s ministry and to help the church’s leadership discern opportunities for the future.

For these reasons, COM recommends concurrence with the petition.

Moderator McCulloch opened the floor for discussion.

- Remarks in favor of the motion included the affirmation of the presbytery for being flexible; the impression that this shift to allow Temporary Pastors to become installed pastors (provided there is a good fit) is to become a new direction; the acknowledgment that we are in extraordinary times and this relationship between Lower Marsh PC and Rev. Englund-Krieger is a good fit; and the rationale presented by COM lets pastors and congregations do what’s best for the health of the greater church.
- There were fewer remarks in opposition of the motion. They centered around needing movement of the Spirit to bring new people to the presbytery in order to avoid being a “closed” system.
- One presbyter suggested laying out criteria for future similar proposals.

**ACTION: MSP** to end discussion.

Moderator McCulloch called for a vote on the motion to approve the petition of the Lower Marsh Creek PC, that the way be clear to install Mark Englund-Krieger as pastor. Motion was made and seconded.

Using a PowerPoint slide, Moderator McCulloch clarified who, specifically, was permitted to vote:

MWS (Minister of Word and Sacrament)

EC (Elder Commissioner, designated by your Session)

CP (Carlisle Presbytery committee chair/ officer/Council member, Presbytery PW Moderator)

CCE (Certified Christian Educator)

CRE (Commissioned Ruling Elder serving congregation, or not)

GU (guest/present as observer; no voice, no vote)

TE Meg Shoeman (TSC) and TE Katy Yates Brungraber (Recording Clerk) were tasked with reviewing the Zoom participant panel to determine how many voting members of the presbytery were present. Of the 63 individuals present on-line at the time of the vote, 57 were eligible to vote. Moderator McCulloch announced to the presbytery that 3/4 of those eligible to vote must vote affirmatively in order for the exception to be granted. He clarified that an abstention vote will be counted as being present, but not count toward the 3/4 requirement to grant the exception, and that an abstention vote is considered, effectively, as a “no” vote.

Votes were cast by electronic poll. Voting proceeded decently and in order; voting was not rushed. Time was given for all votes to be cast, including 2 voice votes unable to navigate the polling system. Presbyters waited for careful counting of votes by the TSC, IEP, and Treasurer of the presbytery.

**ACTION: TSC Shoeman announced that the Motion to approve the exception carries.**

Upon request, the poll was shown on screen: 81% yes votes, 15% no votes, 4% abstain.

The actual number of total votes cast will be published to the presbytery at a later date.

[The TSC ruled that of 52 votes, 46 voted yes, thus clearing the threshold of the ¾ vote requirement]

The vote being affirmative, Moderator McCulloch announced that the way is clear for Rev. Englund-Kreiger to be eligible to be installed, upon the vote of the congregation. Moderator McCulloch offered a prayer: “This day, Lord, go with Lower Marsh Creek to know what your will will be.”

### **Election of Temporary Stated Clerk**

Moderator McCulloch called on IEP Galan, to report on behalf of the Administration Committee.

IEP Galan reported that the Administration Committee brings a recommendation that the Rev. Allison Smith be elected as a ‘bridge’ Temporary Stated Clerk to the presbytery in fulfillment of requirements of the BOO: a “(Temporary) Stated Clerk: Records the transactions of the council, keeps its rolls of membership and attendance, maintains any required registers, preserves its records, and furnishes extracts from them when required by another council of the church.” G-3.0104. IEP Galan explained

- The demands of a full-time Hospice chaplaincy position make it unsustainable for our current TSC, Meg Shoeman, to continue in the position of TSC.
- As we conduct the search for the person who will fill the new full-time position called Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership, this bridge position will cover the essential functions of the office of the Stated Clerk.

- The reports posted with materials for today’s meeting include TE Smith’s resume of education and work experience, her Statement of Faith, and a rationale from the Personnel Committee. IEP Galan called on TE Smith to speak to her sense of call to this position.

TE Smith spoke about many God-moments coming together to get her to this point. Having felt called away from full-time pastoral ministry, this TSC position met time requirements and felt like a good fit for her as the mother of a young child. Polity was a favorite class in seminary; she sees our polity offering the theological underpinning of how the Holy Spirit works in community.

IEP Galan continued, noting that TE Smith’s strong administrative and technology abilities, appreciation for our polity, and experience with the flexibility required in this time of change, make her a good fit for the presbytery’s needs at this time. Having recently resigned her full-time position as pastor to Faith-Immanuel and Hope PCs in order to have more time at home with her family, TE Smith believes the 10-15 hours/week part-time position is also a good fit for her family’s needs.

IEP Galan noted that the Administration Committee voted unanimously to approve a COA with TE Smith. On behalf of the Administration Committee, she moved that TE Smith be elected TSC, beginning April 1.

Moderator McCulloch noted that since this motion comes from a committee, the motion does not require a second. After discussion – and one particularly ebullient presbyter comment that “the presbytery is getting the best” – the moderator called for the vote.

**ACTION: MP** to approve the COA between TE Allison Smith and the Presbytery of Carlisle for her to serve as Temporary Stated Clerk, beginning April 1, 2022.

Moderator McCulloch expressed gratitude to outgoing TSC Meg Shoeman for her service over the past year and a half. “You are a joy, Meg. Your faith is appreciated. On behalf of the presbytery, God go with you.” IEP Galan also expressed her appreciation for TSC Shoeman as a valued colleague and faithful servant, and encouraged presbyters to extend words of appreciation in the Zoom Chat function.

TSC Shoeman offered a few words. “This work came to me unexpectedly. It’s been a challenge. Your generosity and graciousness have been a blessing.”

### **Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

Moderator McCulloch called for a motion to adjourn and offered a closing prayer at 2:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, \_\_\_\_\_  
Rev. Allison Smith, Temporary Stated Clerk

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**Presbytery of Carlisle**

**Special Meeting- March 15, 2022- Attendance**

<b>Totals</b>	
<b>Pastors</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Elders</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Voters</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Guest</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Cor. Member</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Excused</b>	<b>0</b>

Church	Elder Commissioners	# of Elders	CREs	Total #
Big Spring			Neal McCullough	1
Camp Hill	Dolores Peffley		1	
Capital	Rosetta Gaines		1	
Central				
Centre	Wanda Hockenberry		1	
Christ, Camp Hill	Jill Folk		1	
Derry				
Dickinson	Teresa Ege		1	
Duncannon			<b>Committee Chairs</b>	
East Waterford			Denise Lockwood	1
Faith Immanuel	Norm Dieffenderfer, Rose Jewell-Jordan		1	
Falling Spring				
First, Carlisle				
First United, Newville				
Gettysburg	Deborah Litten		1	
Great Conewago				
Greencastle			<b>Christian Educators</b>	
Harrisburg Korean				
Highland United	William McHenry		1	
Hope United	Judy Bostdorf, Phil Noll		2	
Lost Creek				
Lower Marsh Creek	Lynn Miller, Doyle Waybright		2	
Lower Tuscarora				
Market Square	Dale Laninga, Ron Poorman, Trum Simmons		3 <b>Council</b>	
McConnellsburg			Emily Dame	1
McCoysville				
Mechanicsburg	Katie Chase		1	
Middle Spring	Donald Cover		1	
Monaghan	Kathleen Wells, Lincoln Milner		2 <b>Total CRE, CC, CE, Council</b>	3
Mt. Olivet				
Paxton			<b>Guests</b>	
Pine Street	Beth Alwine		1 Lisa Chase	1
Presbyterian Congregation Middletown			Isaac Bucher	1
Second			Larry Espenshade	1
Silver Spring	Bill Vipperman, John Carroll, Scott Pepper		3 Jim Warnock	1
St. Andrews	William Mulligan, Stuart Juppenlatz		2 Carlin Wenger	1
St. James	Barbara Hughes		1	
Upper West Conococheague				
Warfordsburg				
Waynesboro				
Wells Valley				
Westminster				
<b>Total Elder Commissioners</b>		26	<b>Total Guests</b>	5
<b>Total Other Personnel</b>		3	<b>Total Voting Elders</b>	29

Non-Parish and Honorably Retired					Church Pastors				
Name		Status	Present	Excused	Name		Status	Present	Excused
Anderson	Raymond	HR			Blank	Edward	P	1	
Beck	William	HR			Bowerman	Scott	P		
Beltzner	Doug	HR			Carter	Kent	P		
Best	Charles	HR			Conklin	Nancy	P		
Black	Jon	HR			Cook	Robert	P		
Bowne	Dale	HR			Englund-Krieger	Mark	P	1	
Bradburn	W. Wilson	HR			Fowler	Graham	P		
Buffaloe	Marie	HR	1		Galan	Cheryl	EP	1	
Carrroll	Karin	HR			Gauthier	Vernon	P	1	
Christopher	Donna	NP			Gordon	Gene	P	1	
Clark	Crea	HR			Fowler	Graham	P	1	
Dietz	Peter	NP			Hart	Andrew	P		
Derrickson	Barbara	HR			Hostetter	Andrew	P		
Derrickson	Paul	HR			Johnston	Kathryn	P		
Dunn	Arlene	NP			Kang	Inho	P		
Folts	Thomas	NP			Lorenz	Anthony	P	1	
Fullmer	Paul	NP			McCachren	Emily	P	1	
Green	John	HR			McClure	Nancy	P	1	
Hamel	Bertha	HR			Meilands	Pam	P	1	
Hammann	William	HR			Morgan	Robin	P	1	
Hotchkiss	Robert	HR			Neubaum	Christian	P		
Houtz	Richard	HR			Nyiri	Louis	P		
Humphrey	Bruce	HR	1		Park	John	P		
Jackman	Thomas	HR			Smith	Allison	TSC	1	
Jessen	Charles	HR			Sullivan	Russell	P		
Kline	Darlene	HR			Sweet	Tom	P		
Larson	John	HR			Tiedeck	Janice	P	1	
Martin-Minnich	Ron	HR			Wadlington	Kim	P	1	
Mater	Jeanette	HR			Wahlig	Donald	P	1	
McCall	Myrtle	HR			Whitaker	Stephen	P	1	
McKenna	Jennifer	HR			<b>Total HR and NP Pastors</b>			12	
Mitchell	Donald	HR			<b>Total Installed Pastors</b>			16	
Morgan	Troy	NP	1		<b>Total MWS</b>			28	
Myers	Anne	HR							
Myers	Charles	NP							
Opitz	Don	NP							
Pace	Art	HR							
Potter	Donald	HR							
Reinert	Nancy	HR	1						
Rhoades	Robert	HR							
Rich	David	HR							
Richwine	James	HR	1						
Richwine	Lois	NP							
Roach	Timothy	HR							
Schmidt	John	HR	1						
Schwab	Rachel	NP							
Sheffield	Dick	HR							
Shoeman	Margaret	NP	1						
Sigler	Heather	HR	1						
Smith	Kristal	NP							
Sproat	John	HR							
Stewart	Anne	NP							
Stockstill	Andrew	NP							
Strauss	Sandra	NP							
Thomas	Thomas D.	HR							
Trask	Edward	HR							
Uittenbogaard	Roger	HR							
Uittenbogaard	Susan	HR							
Van Hise	Angelina	HR	1						
Van Hise	Larry	HR	1						
Van Schenkhof	Carol	HR							
Velthius	Stephen	NP							
Veon-Nyiri	Candace	NP							
Wadlington	Derek	NP							
Washburn	Mary	HR							
West	Howard	NP							
Wiant	Kelly	NP							
Williams	Dale	HR							
Winsheimer	Harry	HR							
Work	Galen	HR							
Wright	David	HR	1						
Yaroschuk	Kathryn	NP							
Yates-Brungraber	Kathy	HR	1						
<b>Total HR and NP Pastors</b>			12						