

## MINUTES OF THE MAY 3, 2022 MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF CARLISLE

### Attachments

1. Roll for Attendance at May 3, 2022 Meeting of the Presbytery

### Abbreviations

- ACTION MSP     Motion Seconded, Discussed, and Passed (if it comes from the committee, MP only)
- 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
- 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

### Longing for God

The Meeting of the Presbytery of Carlisle was called to order and opened with prayer at 6:30 PM via Zoom by Moderator Neal McCulloch. “We ask that as we come to the river’s edge this evening, our hearts will be still to hear your voice.” Instructions were given for being recognized by the moderator and voting.

### ACTION

**MSP** to adopt the docket.

### Introduce First-Time Commissioners, DCEs, and Special Guests

First-time commissioners were recognized and thanked for their willingness to participate: RE Amy Chick (Pine Street), RE Linda Epply (Middletown), RE Becca Krimonic (Derry), RE Steve McMullen (Market Square), RE Susan Antonacci, (Christ, Camp Hill), RE Keith Camilli (Market Square), and RE Jill Pogue (Christ, Camp Hill).

### Enroll Corresponding Members

No one wished to be enrolled as a Corresponding member.

Moderator McCulloch and Vice Moderator Scott Bowerman led the saints in a responsive reading of Psalm 42: “As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.” A gathering song – *Down to the River to Pray* – was paired with images of rivers and streams that flow through the geography of Carlisle Presbytery. Presbyters were asked to ponder: “Toward what situations, needs and relationships will the waters carry you?”

### In the River

Moderator McCulloch's Prayer for Illumination preceded IEP Galan calling presbyters to build relationships, grounded in God, focusing on opportunities that lie ahead, using a worshipful work model.

A reading of Exodus 1:8-2:4 reminded those gathered about how the Egyptians ruthlessly imposed tasks on the Hebrews, and how the Midwives Shiprah and Puah feared God over the king of Egypt; they let baby boys live, and the people multiplied. The mother of one Levite baby boy plastered a papyrus basket with pitch and put her son in it among the reeds.

Reflection, led by IEP Galan: We all have this survival instinct... This need to know that we have a part to play, as God's purposes are being worked out... And we long to move with the current of the life-giving, life-sustaining Spirit of God that flows through our lives, our churches, our communities, and our world...Let's think also about the Ukrainian mothers who have written family contact information onto the bodies of their children, stitched it into their clothing, or created identification bracelets for their children, in case they, the mothers, get killed and their child survives.... What does it take to risk that which you love? Courage. Vulnerability. Trust. Surrender. Energy. Clarity of Purpose. Hope.

Presbyters moved into conversation groups for 15 minutes, told stories of acts of risk-taking for the sake of someone or something they love – and described current conditions in their congregation.

Reflection, led by IEP Galan: The assumption is that God's Spirit is moving through our presbytery. The turbulence may be unsettling, but it also suggests a current that transforms, renews, and carries us downstream from where we started. The 'current' conditions that make us aware of our vulnerability also hold significant opportunities for us to re-think and re-imagine what it means to be Christian communities today. To go there - to become something totally different, so the gospel can breathe new life into these troubled, tough times - will require risk. Our stories of the risks we took in the past are powerful reminders of the courage, trust, and resilience we have already shown.

**Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry – the movement of the Spirit in the presbytery's work**

Moderator McCulloch called on TE Don Wahlig, Chair of CPM, to present Inquirer Lynn Miller for enrollment as a Candidate. On October 12, 2020, Ms. Miller was enrolled as an Inquirer. On February 6, 2022, she was endorsed by the session of Lower Marsh Creek PC for Candidacy. On March 24, 2022, CPM voted to present her to the Presbytery for enrollment as a Candidate.

Inquirer Miller's supporting documents were available with presbytery meeting materials in advance of the meeting. Inquirer Miller spoke regarding her statement of faith and experience through various denominations until finding a home in the PCUSA.

Moderator McCulloch called on Ms. Miller to share her sense of call. Ms. Miller spoke regarding her hesitation to pursue a pastoral call, but God's continued nudging along the way and the guidance and encouragement of her pastor. She expressed appreciation for Presbyterian polity and governance.

Moderator McCulloch opened the floor for questions, instructing the presbytery that questions about the Inquirer's sense of call and spiritual practices are in order; questions about theology are out of order at this stage.

Inquirer Miller answered questions about polity (connectional church with a higher level of accountability), seminary (Christian Doctrine pushed her to think through beliefs about God/Trinity); spiritual disciplines (Scripture, walking, journaling, regular Worship, Christian friends/music); her sense of call (definitely MWS, not CRE). Favorable comments were offered by Silver Spring PC colleagues.

**ACTION**

**MSP** to arrest the examination.

Inquirer Miller was moved to the waiting room.

**ACTION**

**MSP** to approve the Inquirer to be enrolled as a Candidate.

In discussion before the vote, it was noted that the Inquirer is supported by a liaison and a very strong support group at Lower Marsh Creek PC. CPM has reminded her about the importance of balance for sustained ministry.

Ms. Miller was brought back from the waiting room, welcomed, and informed of the outcome of the vote. Presbyters celebrated with her God's faithfulness. Before asking the constitutional questions, the Moderator read liturgy based on Isaiah 43:1-3, "I have called you by name, you are mine...When you pass through the waters, I will be with you."

Moderator McCulloch called on TE Mark Englund-Krieger (Lower Marsh PC), inviting him to give the charge. The Moderator closed in prayer.

**ACTION**

**MP** that the Presbytery approves the celebration of the Lord's Supper at the worship service to be held at the CPM retreat on August 19, 2022. Coming from Committee, no second had been required; opportunity had been given for discussion.

Attention was called to CPM Information Items:

- Joe Calhoun was approved for admission to the CRE Training Program of Carlisle Presbytery.
- The Annual CPM retreat is scheduled for August 19-20.

**Offering our Gifts**

Vice Moderator Bowerman called for the offering, benefiting the relief efforts of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in Ukraine. (visit <http://pcusa.org/pda/ukraine>) He led Prayers of Dedication and Intercession: "Merciful God, with these gifts, we offer tangible resources to help those who have been displaced from their homes, who have lost loved ones, who remain in harm's way. With these gifts we also repent of our own complicity in cultures of violence; we renew our efforts toward peace. We pray for an end to war and a beginning for justice, mercy, and peace." Donations were collected for PDA.

Prayers of the people included the ministry of TE-elect Lisa Chase (beginning tomorrow at Silver Spring PC); Gilda Blank; churches in transition, especially all those seeking new pastors; TE Caleb McClure (Gettysburg PC); and those who have been recently diagnosed with COVID.

**Reports for Information**

Vice Moderator Bowerman called on TSC Allison Smith, who drew attention to the following reports which were posted for information with the meeting materials and are highlighted here.

- Administration Committee
  - Treasurer and Insurance /Congregation Indebtedness Reports
- Administrative Commission - Mercersburg
  - 19 AC meetings in five months, including gathering the congregation in February and April to discuss Legacy Path options; the AC continues prayerful consideration, and, trusting in God, will discern the next faithful steps in obedience to the Lord's leading.
- Commission on Ministry
  - Approved an APNC (Mechanicsburg PC), clergy coaching groups (TE Yates Brungraber), COAs (Paxton PC, Christ PC), MWS membership transfers (TE L. Bowerman, TE Reitz, TE Hudson), Commissions to Ordain and Install (TE-elect Chase, TE Englund-Krieger)
  - Established a working group to initiate a process whereby Ruling Elders could be: Identified by their Session, trained by the Presbytery, and commissioned by COM to preside at the Lord's Supper in the worship of their own congregation and to extend the church's ministry by taking communion to home-bound members. (W-2.0303)
  - Acted on a motion to partner with Presbyteries in the tristate area to move forward with a project to create a regional database for pastoral leadership searches.
- Temporary Stated Clerk
  - Minutes reviewed/approved for February 25 (stated) and March 15 (special) meetings
  - Report on Terms of Call for installed pastors
    - Acceptable terms of call have been reported for 23 of the 24 churches with installed pastoral leadership.
  - Annual Statistical Report with Financial Data on Income and expenses
    - Noted: 2020 and 2021 have been volatile years in the church. Friends of the Congregation include people who worship online or assist with the mission but aren't counted otherwise. There are ways that ministries impact communities.
  - Reported to the Office of the General Assembly retirement (TE Buffaloe), change in status (TE Smith), and transfers (TEs Hudson, L. Bowerman, and Reitz)

TSC Smith called on IEP Galan to give an update from Coordinating Council. The Coordinating Council has begun to identify people for a search team for the position of FT Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership; they hope to bring someone before presbytery in September.

### Carried On The Current

#### **Commissioning of General Assembly Commissioners –**

TE Peter Dietz, RE Roger Clowes, RE Bill McHenry, YAV Kemper Dyson

Vice Moderator Bowerman and Moderator McCulloch led the commissioning liturgy, with reference to the Great Ends of the Church, discipleship, and baptism.

Commissioners affirmed their calling, and members of Carlisle Presbytery accepted the commissioners – chosen by God through the voice of the church to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ – and promised to support and encourage them as they seek to fulfill their responsibilities in this service. TSC Allison ended the Commissioning with prayer.

IEP Galan offered a few words about the unique format of this year's GA: two years ago, the GA met entirely on Zoom; this year, commissioners will travel to Louisville in waves, June 18-July 9. They will worship and have a plenary in Zoom. The Offices in Louisville have been renovated to accommodate the

technology. Commissioners met in Gettysburg today. RE Clove will chair a GA committee! Presentation of a Gift "Basket" with a water bottle, energy, imagination, putty, chocolates, and gift card.

IEP Galan offered the charge: You are commissioned to serve as commissioners and advisory delegate to the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A). "Whatever you do, in word and deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him." - Colossians 3:17

IEP Galan pointed the presbyters toward September with an artist's image of a river on the screen, reminding the gathered body of God's purpose for the freedom of the people will emerge as this child is carried on a current that takes him back to his mother, then to Pharaoh's daughter, to the burning bush, through the waters of the Red Sea and 40 years of wilderness wandering, to the brink of the Promised Land. Shifting to an image of a map of PA, showing the rivers, she observed,

Like the rivers that flow through the geography of our presbytery,  
we are **connected**...our tributaries, rivulets, creeks, and springs  
flow from the Source that created them, to nourish all living things  
...and we are **carried forward**,  
moving towards new situations, needs, and relationships, where God's love is needed...

By now we know, we can't simply return to the congregational life we knew before the pandemic.

Our congregations have been irrevocably changed.

It's time for us to be "Looking Toward" a radically different future and to ask ourselves,  
**what will we risk**

to move with the current of the life-giving, life-sustaining Spirit of God?

#### **Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

Moderator McCulloch called for a motion to adjourn (**MSP**) and offered a closing prayer at 8.21 PM.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery will be Saturday, September 24, 2022. "God is carrying us.

May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back...And the rains fall soft upon your fields. Until we meet again..."

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

<b>Totals</b>	
<b>Pastors</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Elders</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Voters</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Guest</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Cor. Member</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Excused</b>	<b>3</b>

Church	Elder Commissioners	# of Elders	CREs	Total #
Big Spring			Neal McCullough (Moderator)	1
Camp Hill	Beth Fine, Dolores Peffley	2	Rosamond Presby	1
Capital	Rosetta Gaines		1 Doyle Waybright	1
Central				
Centre	Shannyn Trostle, Raymonda Cunningham	2		
Christ, Camp Hill	Susan Antonacci, Jill Folk	2		
Derry	Rebecca Farbaniec, Greg Harris, Connie Henry	2		
Dickinson	Teresa Ege, Dianne Conaway	2		
Duncannon			<b>Committee Chairs</b>	
East Waterford			Norma Mateer	1
Faith Immanuel	Lori Beamer		1	
Falling Spring				
First, Carlisle			Thomas Johnston	1
First United, Newville				
Gettysburg	Linda Thompson		1	
Great Conewago				
Greencastle			<b>Christian Educators</b>	
Harrisburg Korean			Cheryl Betts	1
Highland United	Bill McHenry	1		
Hope United	Phil Noll, Judy Bostdorf	2		
Lost Creek	Cheryl Booker, Sue Watts	2		
Lower Marsh Creek	Susan Nunamaker, Doyle Waybright	2		
Lower Tuscarora				
Market Square	Steven McMullen, Keith Camilli, David Lehman		3 <b>Council</b>	
McConnellsburg	Richard Rotz		1 Emily Dame	1
McCoysville			Rose Jewell-Jordan	1
Mechanicsburg	Katie Chase	1		
Middle Spring	Kemper Dyson, Donald Cover	2		
Monaghan	Richard Lee, Nancy Brucker		2 <b>Total CRE, CC, CE, Council</b>	8
Mt. Olivet				
Paxton			<b>Guests</b>	
Pine Street	Beth Alwine, Amy Chick		2 Denise Lockwood	1
Presbyterian Congregation Middletown	Linda Eppley, Keith Eppley		2 Lynn Miller	1
Second				
Silver Spring	John Carroll, Scott Pepperman	2		
St. Andrews				
St. James	Barbara Hughes	1		
Upper West Conococheague				
Warfordsburg				
Waynesboro	Lori Sutton	1		
Wells Valley	Tracy Mosebey	1		
Westminster				
	<b>Total Elder Commissioners</b>		38 <b>Total Guests</b>	2
	<b>Total Other Personell</b>		8 <b>Total Voting Elders</b>	46

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		1
Beltzner	Doug	HR			Conklin	Nancy	P		1
Best	Charles	HR			Cook	Robert	P		1
Black	Jon	HR			Englund-Krieger	Mark	P		1
Bowne	Dale	HR			Graham	Fowler	P		1
Bradburn	W. Wilson	HR			Galan	Cheryl	EP		1
Buffaloe	Marie	HR			Gauthier	Vernon	P		1
Carroll	Karin	HR			Gordon	Gene	P		1
Carter	Kent	NP	1		Hart	Andrew	P		
Christopher	Donna	NP			Hostetter	Andrew	P		1
Clark	Crea	HR			Johnston	Kathryn	P		
Dietz	Peter	NP	1		Kang	Inho	P		1
Derrickson	Barbara	HR			Lorenz	Anthony	P		1
Derrickson	Paul	HR			McCachren	Emily	P		1
Dunn	Arlene	NP			McClure	Nancy	P		1
Folts	Thomas	NP			Meilands	Pam	P		
Fullmer	Paul	NP			Morgan	Robin	P		
Green	John	HR		1	Neubaum	Christian	P		1
Hamel	Bertha	HR			Nyiri	Louis	P		1
Hammann	William	HR			Park	John	P		
Hotchkiss	Robert	HR			Smith	Allison	TSC		1
Houtz	Richard	HR			Sullivan	Russell	P		
Humphrey	Bruce	HR			Sweet	Tom	P		1
Jackman	Thomas	HR		1	Tiedeck	Janice	P		1
Jessen	Charles	HR			Wadlington	Kim	P		1
Kline	Darlene	HR			Wahlig	Donald	P		1
Larson	John	HR			Whitaker	Stephen	P		
Martin-Minnich	Ron	HR			Wright	David	P		
Mater	Jeanette	HR							
McCall	Myrtle	HR					Total	20	1
McKenna	Jennifer	HR	1					12	2
Mitchell	Donald	HR			<b>Total MWS</b>		32		3
Morgan	Troy	NP							
Myers	Anne	HR							
Myers	Charles	NP							
Opitz	Don	NP							
Pace	Art	HR							
Potter	Donald	HR							
Reinert	Nancy	HR							
Rhoades	Robert	HR							
Rich	David	HR							
Richwine	James	HR		1					
Richwine	Lois	NP		1					
Roach	Timothy	HR							
Schmidt	John	HR							
Schwab	Rachel	NP							
Sheffield	Dick	HR							
Shoeman	Margaret	NP							
Sigler	Heather	HR		1					
Smith	Kristal	NP		1					
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							
Van Hise	Larry	HR							
Van Schenkhof	Carol	HR							
Velthius	Stephen	NP							
Veon-Nyiri	Candace	NP		1					
Vickery	Caroline	HR							1
Wadlington	Derek	NP		1					
Washburn	Mary	HR							
West	Howard	NP							
Wiant	Kelly	NP							
Williams	Dale	HR		1					
Winsheimer	Harry	HR							
Work	Galen	HR							
Yaroschuk	Kathryn	NP							
Yates-Brungraber	Katy	HR		1					

