

MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 2024 STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF CARLISLE
Hybrid Meeting at Dickinson Presbyterian Church, Carlisle, PA and via Zoom

Attachments

1. **Attendance Roll** at the May 1, 2024 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Carlisle
 - 86 in attendance - 39 of those on Zoom

Abbreviations

- ACTION MSP Motion, Seconded, Discussed, and Passed (if it comes from 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
- CC Coordinating Council
- CCE Certified Christian Educator
- CLC Church Leadership Connection
- COA Covenant of Agreement
- CPM Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- COM, NWCC Commission on Ministry, New Worshiping Community Commission
- GA, OGA, SOT General Assembly, Office of General Assembly, Synod of the Trinity
- IEP Interim Executive Presbyter
- MAL Member-At-Large
- MDP Ministry Discernment Profile
- NC, PNC Nominating Committee, Pastor Nominating Committee
- PC, PW, PHS Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Historical Society
- PLGCL/SC Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership / Stated Clerk
- PLVT, BPL Presbytery Leader for Vision and Transformation, Bridge Presbytery Leader
- TE, MWS Teaching Elder, Minister of Word and Sacrament
- RE, CRE, EREC Ruling Elder, Commissioned Ruling Elder, Elected RE Commissioner to this meeting
- VM Vice Moderator

GOD GATHERS US

Call to Order

After presbyters had enjoyed an on-site meal hosted by Dickinson PC, and been ushered into the worship space by a glorious organ prelude, Moderator Roz Presby (RE, St. Andrews PC, Lebanon) called to order at 6:00 PM this stated meeting of the Presbytery of Carlisle. Zoom tutorial instructions had been provided with the Docket. Instructions were given for clergy and commissioners to be recognized in an orderly manner by the Moderator, and to navigate voting procedures, whether in person or on Zoom.

The theme of the meeting was “celebration.” Using Liturgy from Ann Weems’ book, *Reaching for Rainbows* [“I Celebrate the Church of Jesus Christ,” pp. 57-60, “Balloons Belong in Church,” pp. 20-23, The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, 1980], presbyters were encouraged to shake egg shakers whenever they heard the word “celebrate” during the service. (Zoomers could celebrate using the reactions panel). The festive sound of egg shakers punctuated the meeting, starting with “We celebrate this community...where healing and compassion leave no time for self-righteousness, and the life-sustaining love of Christ is evident in the life of the believers.”

Welcome, Meeting Instructions and Approval of the Docket

Moderator Presby called forward CRE Neal McCulloch (Dickinson PC, Carlisle), who offered a welcome and prayer of gratitude: “thank you, Lord, as we celebrate all you do for us.”

ACTION

MSP to adopt the docket.

Enrollment of Corresponding Members / Intros of First-Time Commissioners, Pastors, DCEs, Guests

Moderator Presby enrolled as a corresponding member TE Rick Boyer (Presbytery of Northeast NJ). She acknowledged four first-time commissioners: RE Rich Borchert (St. Andrews PC, Lebanon), RE Woody Jones (St. James PC, Mechanicsburg), RE Sherry Webber-Mains (First United PC, Newville), Phil Gardner (Camp Krislund, Interim Director).

Call to Worship

With the meeting framed in worship, Moderator Presby led an interactive Call to Worship, focusing on celebrating Christ’s church “where we dare to standup, where risk runs rampant, and you and I and all Christ's disciples are called upon to follow even when it costs us something precious...” Following the singing of Hymn #389 *Let All Things Now Living*, and Confession, presbyters were assured of God’s grace, celebrating places where injustices are righted, pain alleviated, scars erased, tears wiped away, children treasured and nurtured. “Together we celebrate the ways God forgives us and makes us whole.” Presbyters then Passed the Peace of Christ.

GOD PROCLAIMS TO US**Scripture Reading and Reflection**

Bridge Presbytery Leader (BPL) Lucy Bowerman read Psalm 150 and offered a Prayer for Illumination. Her Reflection was a distillation of gratitude for the past 9 months serving as Presbytery Co-Leader. She spoke of wanting people to have fun while doing the work of supporting our churches and pastors. She described seeing the Spirit of Lord dwelling in the people who serve on the committees. TE Bowerman lifted up the chairs of committees and commissions with which she’d had the most interaction – Finance, COM, New Worship, Nominating – and heralded the way they navigate challenges through all their various duties. In addition to marveling at the talents and dedication of presbytery staff, TE Bowerman expressed great gratitude for her partner, Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership (PLGCL) TE Kristal Smith, noting how, together, they pastored the pastors, brought resources and training to presbyters, and care to those who are grieving. TE Bowerman observed that staff meetings are full of laughter, and, encouraged presbyters to invite some of the 8,000+ members of presbytery to come and see what goes on here.

WE OFFER OUR WORK**Coordinating Council**

Vice Moderator (VM) Janice Tiedeck (Monaghan PC, Dillsburg) thanked BPL Bowerman for her faithful work, announced the singing of Hymn #10 *Earth and All Stars*, and called for the Report of the Coordinating Council, presented by PLGCL Smith.

PLGCL Smith directed presbyters to her written report for information items, including the

- Feb. 10, 2024 Presbytery Minutes read by BPL Bowerman /RE Sara Frailey (Christ PC, Camp Hill)

- 2024 Terms of Call being on file for 19 of 24 installed pastors
- reporting to the OGA ordinations (Miller, Dunn), retirements (Morgan), deaths (Anderson)
- 2022 Annual Review of Session Minutes by 38 of 41 churches (few delinquencies or exceptions)
- 2023 Presbytery of Carlisle Annual Statistical Report (membership is 8,314 – reflects 464 losses)
- Commission Report for Ordaining TE Kevin Long (Intertwined)
- Commission Report for Ordaining TE Lynn Miller (Christ PC, Harrisburg)
- change in PA Department of State (DOS) requirements for non-profit Corporate Reporting
 - replaces decennial report requirement previously completed in years ending in “1”.
 - new requirement: free ANNUAL report, deadline June 30 each year, beginning 2025.
 - this is not an annual financial or charitable activity report.
 - the report will consist of: organization's name; jurisdiction of the organization's formation; name of at least one director, member, or partner; names and titles of the organization's principal officers; address of the organization's principal office; entity number issued by the PA DOS; online filing will be available at <https://file.dos.pa.gov/>
 - each church will need to set up a login to use this service
 - recommended: set up a username that reflects the name of the corporation, and make sure that username and password/s are provided to any successor.
 - failure by the DOS to deliver advance notice to any party, or failure by any party to receive notice of an annual report filing requirement does not relieve the corporation of the obligation to make the annual report filing.
 - failure to file the annual report will subject the corporation to administrative dissolution/termination/cancellation and loss of the protection of its name.
 - ensure that church corporate records accurately reflect current corporate officers and the correct address so that notices will go to the correct location.

PLGCL Smith brought forward a request of the Session of Capital PC (Harrisburg) to waive term limits as permitted (*Book of Order*, G-2.0404). The Presbytery did this for two other churches in December.

ACTION

MSP to approve the waiver of term limits for officers at Capital PC as determined appropriate by its Session, according to the church’s needs and limitations, for the year 2024.

PLGCL Smith then spoke with warmth and appreciation for the gifts TE Lucy Bowerman brought to her role of BPL. While the job description TE Bowerman started with was “not very complete,” she was willing to trust God with the rest, beginning in August 2023. TE Bowerman graciously stepped up when there was a need; she now graciously steps away as TE Jamie McCleod steps in as new Presbytery Co-Leader. PLGCL Smith emphasized how TE Bowerman served in the margins, dove into insurance issues, and was a “wonderful conversation partner with our churches and pastors.” She blessed the presbytery with her listening heart, discernment, and willingness to explore the unknown.

Administration Committee

VM Tiedeck called upon RE Norma Mateer (Middletown PC), who drew attention to the Treasurer’s reports – presented for information – which were located with meeting materials on the web site. Questions should be directed to the presbytery’s Treasurer, TE Ed Blank (Middle Spring PC).

RE Mateer also brought forward a motion from the Administration Committee which shows a slight change to PLGCL Smith's 2024 Terms of Call so they align with TE Jamie McLeod's Terms of Call – which were approved in March – as is appropriate for Presbytery Co-Leaders.

VM Tiedeck reminded presbyters that because the motion came from Committee, it did not need a second. There was opportunity for discussion; there were no comments or questions.

ACTION

MP to approve the 2024 Terms of Call for Kristal Smith as presented.

VM Tiedeck led the response: "I celebrate the church of Jesus Christ, whose supportive community holds me, enfolds me, affirms me, reaches out to me, gives to me, receives from me."

WE OFFER OURSELVES

With the meeting running 20 minutes ahead of schedule, TE Anthony Lorenz (First PC, Carlisle), was invited forward to offer the Commission on Ministry (COM) report. He spoke of the call to ordered ministry in the Church being the act of the triune God, evidenced by the movement of the Holy Spirit in the individual conscience, the approval of a community of God's people, and the concurring judgment of a council of the Church. (BOO, G-2.0103 Call to Ordered Ministry). TE Lorenz presented Shawn Gray who

- has been under care of Lackawanna Presbytery
- graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity in May of 2021
- is certified ready to receive a call (as of November 2023) by Lackawanna Presbytery
- is voted by the Session of Derry PC as the Temporary Supply Pastor for Christian Education
- was examined by the COM, which now brings Shawn for examination for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament (MWS) and the position of Temporary Pastor at Derry PC

Candidate Shawn Gray read Acts 9:1-19 – "Saul, why do you persecute me? I am Jesus..."

In exploring the text, Candidate Gray admitted that, usually, he is a Lectionary preacher. He observed parallels between Saul/Paul's call to ministry and his own, noting that "Those surrounding Paul affirmed the call," and he was affirmed as well. Using illustrations from the lives of C.S Lewis and J.R. Tolkien, Candidate Gray referred to his camp counseling days and his struggle to say yes to God's call to ordained ministry. His hesitancy came from the worry that he was not good enough. He has learned that whatever inadequacy we have, God can fill those gaps. He figures that if God used a persecutor to write much of the New Testament, God can use him – despite his anxieties of lack of skill. Candidate Gray charged presbyters to be filled with the hope that we are all God's beloved.

Moderator Presby instructed presbyters that the purpose of this examination was to evaluate the Candidate's readiness for ordination to MWS. Appropriate topics for questions related to the sermon, his Statement of Faith and Spiritual Autobiography (provided in online materials for today's meeting), the Bible, Sacraments, Polity, Theology, and his sense of call to Derry PC.

Questions asked and answered included

- *How do you get young people to participate?* safe space, permeable walls, focus on Christ
- *Is camp your passion / niche?* Originally, yes, but now, also a desire to convey God's love to all
- *What does God do in the sacraments – what is God's action?* God is present, shows grace
- *What spiritual disciplines help you be in communication with God?* honor Sabbath, read, listen

- *What about Derry PC, specifically, called to you? community for my family; sense of a good fit*
- *What methods do you use in sermon preparation? lectionary, lectio divina, story (it takes days)*
- *There's no mention of the Holy Spirit in your Statement of Faith; what you believe?*
the three in one is a mystery – they all have strengths and weaknesses – Holy Spirit is not taught. Holy Spirit is God's action in the world; an electricity that moves us, the Breath of God – ethereal. Holy Spirit is feminine in gender. God's hands and feet.
- *How do you see your role as one of the millennials in the presbytery? we're the bridge generation, bridging the days of pre-internet and card catalogues with modern technology*

The Candidate was encouraged by presbyters to add into his Statement of Faith his beliefs about the person of the Holy Spirit in the Trinity, and to continue thinking about what God does in the Sacraments.

ACTION

MSP to arrest the examination.

Candidate Gray was excused to a waiting room.

Moderator Presby called for a motion to approve Shawn Gray for ordination to MWS (seconded). Minimal discussion followed. TE Stephen McKinney-Whitaker (Derry PC, Hershey) spoke in favor of Candidate Gray, observing that Mr. Gray has been what they've needed as Director of Christian Education; he brings empathy and compassion, and will be a good fit as clergy.

ACTION

MSP to approve Shawn Gray for ordination to Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

After the vote, Candidate Gray was escorted back into the sanctuary. Moderator Presby informed him of the favorable outcome of the vote with the singing of the Doxology. The way is clear for Mr. Gray to be ordained by the Presbytery of Carlisle to Temporary Pastor at Derry PC the evening of Tuesday, May 28.

Moderator Presby asked TE Lorenz to offer a prayer; he invited those who are important to Mr. Gray to come forward. "We give thanks for your call to Shawn in ministry. For all he has experienced and learned – and all that he *will* experience and learn." Warm welcomes to the presbytery were extended.

TE Lorenz then reported that COM is keenly aware of changes coming to Board of Pensions (BOP). COM will meet with Emily Chutty, BOP Representative, and schedule additional meetings for pastors, clerks, and more; watch e-mail. He extended personal thanks for Lucy Bowerman – she's returning to COM!

Offertory

As a pick-up choir of 4 men and 4 women sang *What a Friend we have in Jesus*, \$235 was collected for PAW Packs, a program designed to provide meals to families within the Big Spring School District who might otherwise have nothing to eat on weekends or holidays. In gratitude, presbyters sang "Give thanks with a grateful heart..." and Moderator Presby led a Litany of Celebration:

"I celebrate the trust we hold, the spirit we share, the attitude of partnership. I celebrate that love lives among us, that God's spirit pervades our being, our community."

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

Commissioning – using a Commissioning Service for General Assembly from New Covenant Presbytery

VM Tiedeck asked the previously-elected Commissioners to GA226 to come forward: RE Rose Jewell-Jordan (Faith-Immanuel PC, Harrisburg), RE Kemper Dyson (Middle Spring PC, Shippensburg), and TE Gene Gordon (Capital PC, Harrisburg); TE Katy Yates Brungraber (Validated Ministry – Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Greencastle) joined via Zoom.

With the reading of the Great Ends of the Church, Commissioners were reminded of discipleship being a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism – both a gift of grace (sufficient for our calling) and a commitment. Affirmed that God has called them to particular service, Commissioners showed their purpose by answering questions of discipleship to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior: loving neighbors; working for the reconciling of the world; serving with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love; relying on God’s mercy and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Members of the Presbytery of Carlisle answered their questions in the affirmative, promising to accept these Commissioners as advisory delegates to the 226th General Assembly, chosen by God through the voice of the church, to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ. Presbyters promised to support and encourage them as they seek to fulfill their responsibilities in this ministry.

Following a Commissioning Prayer that called upon the Holy Spirit to guide the whole church to join in love and service to Jesus Christ – “who, having gone before us, is coming to meet us in the promise of your kingdom” – Commissioners to GA226 were charged that “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

GOD SENDS US

Prayers of the People

- with joy for: new baptisms; God’s goodness; the arrival of Spring; the laundry outreach ministry of Waynesboro PC expanding; the ability to gather in person and via Zoom.
- with congratulations and gratitude for: Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston (Mechanicsburg PC) on the occasion of her 15th anniversary as Pastor/Head of Staff – an inspirational leader and teacher – may God continue to bless her and her family; Rev. Kim Wadlington (Market Square PC, Harrisburg) for her ministry in this presbytery as she now follows God’s call to Ohio; new ideas and initiatives, inspired by the Spirit!
- with concern for: those who grieve; colleagues in ministry who have joined God’s joyful choir; the families of Ray Anderson, Crea Clark, and Tom Jackman who grieve their deaths even as they celebrate and give thanks for their lives; people effected by global war (we pray for peace); humanitarian issues in Palestine, both in Gaza and the West Bank – in war, food, lack of aid (may we be your hands and feet); search committees of churches looking for a new pastor.
- for: Margi, Joy, Louise and Kathy; all our churches – even in celebration (help us pay attention); bringing people to Christ through Capital PC; Robert Campbell; help us be the church in joy; it can be easy to get drawn in to the hard things – help us see the new thing you’re doing.

The meeting drew to a close with the Lord’s Prayer and the singing of Hymn #377 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*. VM Janice Tiedeck adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM with prayer and benediction: “Let’s celebrate the church of Jesus Christ – where the wonderful wildness of God breaks through common clay pots and fills us with a Holy Spirit that overflows...and every day is a festival of faith!”

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. Kristal Smith
Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership / Stated Clerk

**ATTACHMENT 1
ATTENDANCE ROLL**

Totals								
Pastors		28						
Elders		45						
Voters		73						
Guest		11						
Corr. Member		2						
Attendance		86						
Excused		0						
Honorably Retired				Active MWS				
Name		Status	Present	Excused	Name		Status	Present
Beck	William	HR			Billings	Peter	NP	
Beltzner	Doug	HR			Blank	Edward	P	1
Best	Charles	HR			Bowerman	David	NP	1
Black	Jon	HR			Bowerman	Lucy	EP	1
Bowne	Dale	HR			Bowerman	Scott	P	1
Bradburn	W. Wilson	HR			Brungraber	Katy Yates	NP	1
Buffaloe	Marie	HR			Carter	Kent	P	1
Carrroll	Karin	HR			Chase	Lisa	P	
Derrickson	Barbara	HR			Conklin	Nancy	P	
Derrickson	Paul	HR			Cook	Robert	P	
Dunn	Arlene	R			Christopher	Donna	NP	
Galan	Cheryl	HR			Dietz	Peter	NP	
Green	John	HR	1		Englund-Krieger	Mark	P	
Hamel	Bertha	HR			Folts	Tom	NP	
Hammann	William	HR			Fowler	Graham	P	1
Hudson	William	HR			Gauthier	Vernon	P	1
Houtz	Richard	HR			Gibelius	Jeff	P	
Humphrey	Bruce	HR		1	Gordon	Gene	P	
Jessen	Charles	HR			Hart	Andrew	P	
Kline	Darlene	HR			Hostetter	Andrew	P	
Larson	John	HR			Johnston	Kathryn	P	1
Martin-Minnich	Ron	HR		1	Kang	Inho	P	
Mater	Jeanette	HR			Long	Kevin	NP	1
McCall	Myrtle	HR			Lorenz	Anthony	P	1
McKenna	Jennifer	HR			McCachren	Emily	P	
Medina	Mark	HR			McClure	Caleb	P	
Mitchell	Donald	HR			McClure	Nancy	P	
Morgan	Troy	R			Meilands	Pam	NP	
Myers	Anne	HR			Melton	Stephen	P	
Myers	Charles	HR			Miller	Lynn	P	1
Pace	Art	HR			Morgan	Robin	P	
Park	John	HR			Neubaum	Christian	P	
Potter	Donald	HR			Opitz	Don	NP	
Reinert	Nancy	HR			Robinson	Matthew	NP	
Rhoades	Robert	HR			Saturno	Anthony	P	
Richwine	Lois	HR		1	Schwab	Rachel	NP	
Richwine	James	HR		1	Seelman	Stuart	P	
Roach	Timothy	HR			Smith	Allison	NP	1
Ross	Anne	HR		1	Smith	Kristal	SC	1
Schmidt	John	HR			Stewart	Anne	NP	
Sheffield	Dick	HR			Stockstill	Andrew	NP	
Sigler	Heather	HR			Sutphin	Emily	P	1
Sproat	John	HR		1	Tiedeck	Janice	P	1
Strauss	Sandra	HR			Velthius	Stephen	NP	
Sullivan	Russell	HR			Vickery	Caroline	P	1
Sweet	Thomas	HR			Wadlington	Kim	P	
Thomas	Thomas D.	HR			Wahlig	Donald	P	
Trask	Edward	HR			Whitaker	Stephen	P	1
Uittenbogaard	Roger	HR			West	Howard	NP	
Uittenbogaard	Susan	HR			Wiant	Kelly	NP	
Van Schenkhof	Carol	HR			Yaroschuk	Kathryn	NP	
Washburn	Mary	HR						
Williams	Dale	HR		1	Rick Boyer from Northeast New Jersey Presbytery			
Winsheimer	Harry	HR			Jamie McLeod from Mid-Kentucky Presbytery			
Work	Galen	HR			Corresponding Member			2
Wright	David	HR			Total HR Pastors			8
					Total Installed and NP Pastors			18
					Total MWS			28

Church	Elder Commissioners	# of Elders	CREs	Total #
Big Spring	Jay Mowery	1	Roz Presby	1
Camp Hill	Beth Fine, Monica Zazworsky	2	Neal McCulloch	1
Capital				
Central	Jean Diehl	1		
Centre	Kirra Stydinger, Wanda Hockenberry	2		
Christ, Camp Hill	Joe Calhoun	1		
Derry	Wally Patton, Julie Yutesler, Jim Warnock	3		
Dickinson	Dianne Conaway, Kyle Katzmoyer	2		
Duncannon	Larry Gildner	1	Committee Chairs	
East Waterford			Norma Mateer	1
Faith Immanuel	Cheryl Caplan	1	Bill McHenry	1
Falling Spring				
First, Carlisle				
First United, Newville	Sherri Webber-Mains, Elaine Fry	2		
Gettysburg				
Great Conewago				
Greencastle			Christian Educators	
Harrisburg Korean				
Highland United				
Hope United	Steve Megonnell	1		
Lost Creek	Kathy Schrack, Lowell Kratzer	2		
Lower Marsh Creek				
Lower Tuscarora			Council	
Market Square	Dave Lehman, Jane Murray	2	Rose Jewell-Jordan	1
McConnellsburg	John Johnston	1		
Mechanicsburg	Katie Chase, Larry Stoner, Sue Karakantas	3		
Middle Spring	Kemper Dyson, Don Cover	2	Total CRE, CC, CE, Council	5
Monaghan	Lincoln Milner, Bobbie Gasswint	2		
Mt. Olivet			Guests	
Paxton	Robert Martin, Kitti Taylor	2	Gregg Robertson, Derry	1
Pine Street	Elyse Rogers, Bob Kerr	2	Michelle Bourne, Dickinson	1
Presbyterian Congregation Middletown	Judy Packeheiser	1	Owen McCulloch, Dickinson	1
Second			Lindsay Burkholder, Camp Krislund	1
Silver Spring	Bob Davis, Gary Hollinger	2	Mike Fry, First United Newville	1
St. Andrews	Rick Borger	1	Teresa Ege, Dickinson	1
St. James	Barbara Hughes, Wendy Jones	2	John Reese, Dickinson	1
Waynesboro	Lori Sutton	1	Debbie Hough, Derry	1
Wells Valley			Elisabeth Gauthier, First United Newville	1
Westminster			Kathy Wells, Monaghan	1
			Phil Gardner, Krislund	1
	Total Elder Commissioners	40	Total Guests	11
	Total Other Personnel	5	Total Voting Elders	45